NOTE

This Microfiche meets the quality requirements of the American National Standard for Microfiche of Documents (ANSI PH5.9-1975). However, because of imperfections in the document from which it was made, it contains images that are illegible or difficult to read. The source document for this microfiche is the best copy that could be obtained prior to filming.

CIS

[illegible]
Washington [illegible]

N6600-FU 3/87

State court caseload statistics:

Annual Report 1986

• Wyoming • Conference of State Court Administrators • Alabama • Alaska • Ari
California • Colorado • Connecticut • Delaware • District of Columbia • Florid
Idaho • Illinois • Indiana • Iowa • Kansas • Kentucky • Louisiana • Maine • Mar
• Michigan • Minnesota • Mississippi • Missouri • Montana • Nebraska • Neva
New Jersey • New Mexico • New York • North Carolina • North Dakota • Ohio •
Pennsylvania • Puerto Rico • Rhode Island • South Carolina • South Dakota
Utah • Vermont • Virginia • Washington • West Virginia • Wisconsin • Wyoming
Court Administrators • Alabama • Alaska • Arizona • Arkansas • California • C
Delaware • District of Columbia • Florida • Georgia • Hawaii • Idaho • Illinois •
• Kentucky • Louisiana • Maine • Maryland • Massachusetts • Michigan • Mi
Missouri • Montana • Nebraska • Nevada • New Hampshire • New Jersey • Ne
North Carolina • North Dakota • Ohio • Oklahoma • Oregon • Pennsylvania • P
Island • South Carolina • South Dakota • Tennessee • Texas • Utah • Vermont
• West Virginia • Wisconsin • Wyoming • Conference of State Court Administrat
• Arizona • Arkansas • California • Colorado • Connecticut • Delaware • Distric

National Center for State Courts
Court Statistics and Information Management Project

July 1988

Copyright © 1988 by The National Center for State Courts
Library of Congress Catalogue Number 79-644737
ISBN 0-89656-090-2
National Center Publication No. R-108

Conference of State Court Administrators Court Statistics and Information Systems Committee

Larry P. Polansky, Chairman (1979 to present)
Executive Director, District of Columbia Courts

William G. Bohn (1982 to present)
State Court Administrator, North Dakota

John A. Clarke (1988 to present)
Trial Court Administrator, Hudson County, New Jersey

Hugh M. Collins (1982 to present)
Judicial Administrator, Louisiana

Sue K. Dosal (1982 to present)
State Court Administrator, Minnesota

Marc Galanter (1986 to present)
Evjue-Bascom Professor of Law, Wisconsin

Jane A. Hess (1987 to present)
State Court Administrator, Missouri

David Lampen (1987 to present)
Clerk of the Appellate Courts, Alaska

Mary Campbell McQueen (1988 to present)
State Court Administrator, Washington

J. Denis Moran (1983 to present)
Director of State Courts, Wisconsin

Jerry Short (1987 to present)
Manager, Court Consultative Services, California

Francis J. Taillefer (1982 to present)
Director of Information Services, North Carolina

National Center for State Courts Board of Directors

Warren E. Burger, Honorary Chairman
Chief Justice of the United States, Retired

Chief Justice Gordon R. Hall, Chairman
Supreme Court of Utah

Chief Justice Harry L. Carrico, Chairman-elect
Supreme Court of Virginia

Arthur H. Snowden II, Vice Chairman
Administrative Director of the Courts, Alaska

Robert N. Baldwin
State Court Administrator, Virginia

Judith A. Cramer
Court Administrator, Ohio

Don Cullen
District Administrator, Minnesota

Judge Sophia H. Hall
Cook County Circuit Court, Illinois

Judge Harriet P. Henry, Judge at Large
Maine District Court

Judge Charles V. Johnson
Superior Court, King County, Washington

Presiding Justice Harry W. Low
Court of Appeal, California

Edward B. McConnell
President, National Center for State Courts

Chief Justice Vincent L. McKusick
Supreme Judicial Court of Maine

Judge Margie M. Meacham
County Court of Carbon County, Wyoming

J. Denis Moran
Director of State Courts, Wisconsin

Chief Justice Robert N. C. Nix, Jr.
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

John H. Pickering, Esq.
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, District of Columbia

Judge Floyd E. Propst
Probate Court of Fulton County, Georgia

Chief Justice Dorothy Comstock Riley
Supreme Court of Michigan

C. Kenneth Roberts, Esq.
Exxon Company, Texas

Chief Justice Gerald T. Wetherington
11th Judicial Circuit, Florida

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS

Geoff Gallas, Director
Research and Special Services

Court Statistics and Information Management Project Staff

David B. Rottman, Director
Craig E. Boersema, Deputy Director
Todd M. Stickle, Staff Associate
Karen Gillions Way, Staff Associate
Margaret W. Carlini, Administrative Secretary
Kelly L. Smith, Administrative Secretary
Greg Tolbert, Part-time Research Associate

Publications Department:
Dennis Miller, Director
Bill Fishback, Editor
Charles F. Campbell, Associate Editor
Tina Beaven, Art Director
Hisako Sayers, Assistant Art Director
Mary McCall, Publications Production Coordinator

Acknowledgments

The preparation of this document was possible because of the cooperation and assistance extended by three groups. First, state court administrators and their staff provided most of the information that is presented, responded patiently to requests for clarification, and informed project staff of jurisdictional or technical changes in their court system. We owe a particular debt to those individuals in administrative offices of the courts who served as contact persons between their offices and the Court Statistics and Information Management (CSIM) Project.

Second, appellate court clerks in many states provided published or unpublished information on their court caseloads. The willingness of the court clerks and their staff to provide and verify appellate court data is greatly appreciated.

Third, the members of the Court Statistics and Information Systems (CSIS) Committee of the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) provided policy direction throughout the preparation of the 1986 annual caseload statistics report and reviewed the report in draft form. The guidance and support provided by the Committee is gratefully acknowledged.

The contribution made by former members of the CSIM Project Staff is also gratefully acknowledged. Robert Roper was the Project Director during the data collection process. On February 1, 1988, Bob transferred to the NCSC's Institute for Court Management in Denver. His willingness to make available his advice and expertise by long-distance greatly facilitated the preparation of this report. Susan Brigman, a Research Associate until August 1987, participated in the early stages of data collection. Cathy Meek was the Administrative Secretary for the project until mid-March of 1988. She was responsible for the initial stages of compiling the Tables and Figures that form Parts IV and V of the report.

Finally, we wish to thank Debra Ballen of the American Insurance Association for information on state tort legislation and helpful advice.

Errors, omissions, and unnecessary ambiguity may still be present in the report despite the direction, advice, and assistance provided by all the above groups and individuals. Responsibility for both this report and the continuing process of improving the accuracy and usefulness of state court statistics lies with the NCSC management and CSIM Project staff, working with the policy direction of the COSCA-CSIS Committee. Questions, corrections, or suggestions about this or future caseload statistics annual reports should be sent directly to the staff of the NCSC's Court Statistics and Information Management Project.

Contents

Acknowledgments v

Overview of the Report 1

Part I: Caseload Statistics in 1986 3

Appellate Court Caseloads in 1986 5
  Appellate Court Jurisdiction 5
  Mandatory Appellate Court Caseloads in 1986 6
    Mandatory Appeals Filed in State Appellate Courts 6
    Clearance Rates for Mandatory Appeals in 1986 9
  Discretionary Appellate Caseloads in 1986 9
    Discretionary Petitions Filed 9
    Clearance Rates for Discretionary Petitions 10
  Appellate Court Workloads in 1986 10
  Appellate Court Opinions in 1986 11
Trial Court Caseloads in 1986 11
  General and Limited Trial Court Jurisdiction 11
  Total Civil Filings in 1986 12
    Civil Filings in General Jurisdiction Trial Courts 12
    Clearance Rates for Civil Cases in General Jurisdiction Trial Courts 14
  Total Criminal Filings in 1986 14
    Criminal Filings in General Jurisdiction Trial Courts 16
    Clearance Rates for Criminal Cases in General Jurisdiction Trial Courts 17
  Total Juvenile Caseloads in 1986 17
    Juvenile Filings in State Trial Courts 17
    Clearance Rates for Juvenile Cases 18

Part II: Civil Litigation in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1986 21

Total Civil Filing Rates 23
Tort Filing Rates 24
  All Torts 24
  Auto Torts 29
  Tort Summary 30
Tort Filing Rates as a Percentage of Total Civil 30
General Civil Filing Rates 31
Small Claims Filing Rates 33

Appendix: Part II 37

Table 2.1 : Total Civil Filings in General Jurisdiction Courts, 1984-1986 38
Table 2.2 : Tort Filings in State Trial Courts, 1981-1986 and 1985-1986 42
Table 2.3 : State Courts Reporting Auto and Nonauto Tort Filings, 1985-1986 45
Table 2.4 : Total Civil and Tort Filings in State Trial Courts, 1985-1986 46
Table 2.5 : General Civil Filings in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1986 and 1985-1986 50
Table 2.6 : Small Claims Filings in the State Trial Courts,1984-1986 54

Part III: 1986 State Court System Charts 57

Court System Charts: An Explanatory Note 59
Prototype of State Court System Charts 61
State Court System Charts: Alabama Through Wyoming 62

Part IV: 1986 State Court Caseload Tables 115

Table 1 : Reported National Caseload for State Appellate Courts,1986 116
Table 2 : Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts,1986 118
Table 3 : Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1986 130
Table 4 : Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1986 136
Table 5 : Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted Review in State Appellate Courts, 1986 140
Table 6 : Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts in 1986 144
Table 7 : Reported National Civil and Criminal Caseload for State Trial Courts, 1986 153
Table 8 : Reported Grand Total, State Trial Court Caseload, 1986 156
Table 9 : Reported Total, State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1986 168
Table10 : Reported Total, State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1986 176
Table11 : Reported Total, State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1986 184
Table12 : Reported Total, State Trial Court Juvenile Caseload, 1986 191

Part V: Figures 197

Figure A: Reporting Periods for All State Trial Courts, 1986 199
Figure B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts,1986 201
Figure C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract,Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in StateTrial Courts, 1986 ... 209
Figure D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by State Trial Courts,1986 215
Figure E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1986 221
Figure F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction,1986 226
Figure G: Number of Judges/Justices in the State Courts, 1986 232
Figure H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts,1986 235
Figure I: Method of Counting Support/Custody Cases in State Trial Courts, 1986 241

Appendices 247

Appendix A: Methodology 249

- The Court Statistics and Information Management Project: Organization and Goals 251
- Evolution of the CSIM Project 251
- Sources of Data 252
- Data Collection Procedures 252
- Variables 253
- Mapping as a Method of Displaying Caseloads 253
- Footnotes 253
- Variations in Reporting Periods 254

Appendix B: Sources of 1986 State Court Caseload Statistics 255

Appendix C: Prototype Statistical Profiles 261
- Prototype of State Appellate Court Statistical Profile Used in 1986 Data Collection 262
- Prototype of State Trial Court Statistical Profile Used in 1986 Data Collection 267

Appendix D: State Populations 273
Resident Population, 1986 275
Total State Population for Trend Tables, 1981, 1984, 1985, and 1986 276

Other Publications from the Court Statistics and Information Management Project 277

Overview of the Report

This is the tenth in a series of annual reports describing the caseloads of the nation's state appellate and trial courts.[1] It has five main parts. Part I is a summary of caseload statistics in 1986: case filing and case disposition in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. Part II examines 1986 civil caseload levels in the context of caseload trends since 1981. Part III describes the organization of each state court system in the form of a chart. Part IV is the heart of the report. It consists of 12 tables, six that present appellate court caseloads and six that present trial court caseloads. Part V gives information on statutory provisions and recordkeeping practices that vary between states and thus affect the comparability of court caseloads. A methodological appendix completes the report, explaining the manner in which the statistics from 52 state court systems have been combined for presentation.[2]

How to Use the Report

The purpose for which the report is to be used should determine the Parts that are consulted and the order in which they are consulted. Three potential purposes are to examine the national picture, to make comparisons between particular states or courts, and to analyze caseload patterns. This "Overview" is written as a starting point for first-time users of the caseload statistics annual report series regardless of their purpose. It explains the contents of the five Parts and how they are interrelated.

The Overview and Part I should suffice for the purpose of obtaining a general description of the work of the state courts in 1986. Part I is written to highlight the main findings from the 1986 caseload statistics and to alert the reader to the complexities involved in making statements that compare caseloads between courts or between states.

Part I is limited in the number of topics that it considers and offers an interpretation of the caseload statistics. Readers who wish to make comparisons or draw their own conclusions should proceed from the Overview to Appendix A, which describes the methodology used to compile the report. The text of Part I identifies some of the problems of comparability that are present, but focuses on those findings that are indicative of the national situation. Once the methodology is understood, the reader should consult the relevant court structure charts in Part III and the relevant background information in Part V before abstracting the caseload statistics of interest. This is essential preparation for examining the court caseloads of particular states.

If the statistics in this report are to be used for comparing a number of states or to determine patterns in filings or dispositions, it is necessary to consult all five Parts. The variation in state court caseloads reported here reflects both differences in the levels of case filings *and* differences in the organization and jurisdiction of appellate and trial courts from state to state, as well as differences in how states collect and disseminate caseload statistics.

To summarize, Part IV of the report contains caseload statistics for 1986 and Parts III and V describe, respectively, the organization of the court systems for which caseload statistics are presented and the way in which each court counts and reports case filings and dispositions. Parts I and II offer the conclusions drawn by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) staff from that evidence.

The Court Statistics and Information Management Project

The Court Statistics and Information Management (CSIM) Project is designed to overcome obstacles to a meaningful statistical portrait of the work of the state courts. The annual caseload statistics report and other CSIM Project publications seek to encourage greater uniformity in how individual courts and state administrative offices of the courts collect and publish caseload information.

The CSIM Project is a cooperative venture between the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the NCSC. COSCA, through its Court Statistics and Information Systems Committee, provides policy guidance for the tasks of developing generic categories for collecting court statistics and of devising an appropriate format for presenting the results. The Committee also reviews in draft form the annual reports. The NCSC provides staff and support facilities for the Project. Previous volumes in the annual report series were prepared and published with funding from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, and the NCSC. The 1986 volume in the caseload statistics series was funded by the NCSC. A grant from the State Justice Institute (SJI) supports the 1988 activities of the CSIM Project.

---

[1] Data were collected on 1982 and 1983 caseloads but were not published as part of the annual caseload statistics report series.

[2] In this report, the District of Columbia court system and the Puerto Rico court system are treated as equivalent to state court systems.

Summary of Parts I-V

Part I highlights the main findings from 1986 caseload statistics. The text uses the 1986 statistics for filings and dispositions of cases in the various individual states to put together a national picture. Maps display the levels of caseload filings and dispositions found in the states. The resulting overview is a summary of, not a substitute for, the core statistical tables in Part IV of this report. In particular, comparisons between states require reference to the footnotes in the core tables, as a minimum step, before drawing conclusions.

Part II of the report is also a commentary on the caseload statistics. It places the findings for 1986 civil caseloads in the context of recent trends. Statistics covering the period 1981-86 for tort cases and 1984-86 for total civil, general civil, and small claims filings are presented to address the question of whether civil litigation in the state courts has increased.

Part III of the report offers another basic reference source to aid in interpreting differences between states in their levels of case filings and case dispositions. It presents an organization chart for each of the 52 state court structures. In addition to providing an overview of the courts that constitute a state court system, the charts indicate the subject matter jurisdiction of each court (the kinds of cases that it can or, at times, must accept) using the generic terminology developed by the CSIM Project. Each chart also provides information on the appellate route that links the various courts, the number of judges appointed to serve in the courts, and the primary source of funding. This information is basic to understanding why a state has a particular caseload level, relative to other states.

Part IV of the report consists of 12 core tables of statistical information that summarize the caseloads in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The text from the initial two parts of the report refer to the tables of Part IV. The level of detail provided in the tables is commensurate with their purpose as a basic reference source. Footnotes to the core tables explain the status of the totals for each state or type of court within a state. These footnotes are important when interpreting any particular state or court's data. The footnotes indicate when similar data are being compared. Information contained in the tables can thus be used to answer a variety of questions about the work of appellate and trial courts within a particular state or about differences between states in their caseloads and their success in coping with those caseloads.

Part V of the report presents additional information about court jurisdiction to aid in interpreting reported caseload levels. Figures A through I describe how each state resolves important issues affecting how cases are counted and classified, such as when a case is first entered into the statistics as a filing and whether criminal cases are counted by defendant or by charge. The figures also address some key differences in court subject matter jurisdiction and in statutory law. For example, one state may have a relatively low rate of juvenile filings because its statutory law defines "juvenile" with a narrower age band than other states. The appellate caseloads of 36 states and the trial caseloads of 44 states are the product of two or more levels of courts. These levels do not necessarily maintain caseload statistics in the same manner. Figures A through I, therefore, present background information on each court having relevant jurisdiction.

The final section of the report is a methodological appendix. It describes the process by which the CSIM Project seeks to render as comparable as possible the results of the diverse ways in which states collect and report statistics on their courts. Over an 11-year period—the project began in 1977—staff, under the guidance of the Conference of State Court Administrators, have refined the classifications and procedures that are used to compile caseload statistics. The methodological appendix reviews the approach employed and describes the steps taken to produce the 1986 caseload statistics annual report.

The CSIM Project staff are aware of the complexity of the information presented in this report and of the table formats required to summarize it. Users of the report are encouraged to consult with CSIM Project staff as questions arise about the content of the tables and about issues of comparability. Also, the information in the 12 core tables does not exhaust what is available from the CSIM databases. The full range of information is indicated in the prototype statistical profiles (Appendix C). Special tabulations of the unpublished information will be provided on request. A copy of the complete database can be obtained through the University of Michigan Inter-University Consortium of Political and Social Research.

Part I

Caseload Statistics in 1986

Caseload Statistics in 1986

More than 15.7 million new civil cases and 11 million new criminal cases were filed in the state trial courts during 1986. These figures represent a 5 percent increase in the number of civil filings from the figures reported to the NCSC for 1985. Civil filings include torts, contracts, small claims, and domestic relations cases. Reported filings in criminal civil and criminal cases grew by nearly 3 percent over the previous year's total. This growth in the number of reported civil and criminal case filings is independent of the increase in the number of courts providing information to the NCSC.

In 1986, more than 208,000 appeals and petitions were filed in state supreme courts and intermediate courts of appeals. This is a 10 percent increase over the total appellate court caseload reported in 1985. The percentage increase excludes the cases from three appellate courts reporting case filing statistics to the NCSC for the first time in 1986.

These case filing statistics represent the most complete portrait available of the activities of state appellate and trial courts. Each state collects and reports court filings and dispositions according to its own statutes, rules, and recordkeeping practices. The Court Statistics and Information Management Project has developed categories for translating data provided by the states into standard categories that are comparable between states. The CSIM Project also recommends procedures for counting the number of cases and deciding when cases should be regarded as closed. Individual appellate and trial courts comply to varying degrees with these suggestions. Differences between states that result in undercounting or overcounting of caseloads relative to the CSIM Project's recommended approach are noted in the footnotes to the caseload tables in Part IV. Only by examining the footnotes and the material in Part V is it possible to determine which information is complete and comparable.

The text of Part I and Part II draws on the data that is sufficiently complete and uniform to allow valid comparisons between the states. The text often relies on caseload statistics expressed as rates per 100,000 population, which facilitates comparisons between states with very different populations. It does not, however, eliminate the considerable variation in the economic bases or economic fortunes of the states, their demographic differences, or the weight of tradition. The impact of such factors requires analysis that lie outside the scope of this report. Instead, the text places states within the context of their regions and, where possible, explains discrepancies in filing rates on the basis of court organization, statutory provisions, or recordkeeping practices.

Maps offer a convenient way to summarize how the various states fit into national patterns. The detailed information used to compile the maps is located in Tables 1-12 (pages 116-195). Most maps convey two kinds of information. First, the maps provide an overview of the groupings of states in terms of number of case filings or dispositions. Second, the maps indicate the status of the information reported for particular states. In some maps, for example, different symbols indicate whether specific information is not applicable, not available, or available only in a form that is not complete and comparable for particular states.

Appellate Court Caseloads in 1986

This section reviews appellate court caseloads by examining, in turn, filings and clearance rates (the number of dispositions as a percentage of total filings). It treats these topics separately for mandatory and discretionary cases, a distinction that requires some background explanation.

Appellate Court Jurisdiction

The complexity of the appellate statistics stems from the diversity of appellate court structures found in the states. One basic difference is the number of appellate courts. Most states initially followed the federal model (until 1891 the U.S. Supreme Court was the only federal appellate court) and established a single appellate court. There has been a subsequent trend towards creation of dual level systems. By 1986, 36 states had at least one intermediate court of appeals (IAC).[3] A second basic difference between state systems is the provision for mandatory and discretionary appeals. Mandatory jurisdiction refers to appeals of right, those cases in which the court is required to hear the appeal on the merits. Discretionary jurisdiction refers to types of cases in which a party must petition the court to hear the case. The appellate court must then decide whether it will exercise its jurisdiction and then consider the case on the merits.

Map 1.1 provides an overview of the ways in which the states organize their appellate courts. In 1986, 14 states and the District of Columbia had a single appellate court (Delaware, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia, and Wyoming).

---

[3] Utah became the 37th state to establish an intermediate appellate court when the Utah Court of Appeals became operational on February 1, 1987.

Two states had a single IAC but separate courts of last resort (COLRs) for civil and criminal cases (Oklahoma and Texas). Four states had two IACs and a single COLR (Alabama, New York, Pennsylvania, and Tennessee). The remaining 30 states had one court of last resort and one intermediate court of appeals.

State appellate courts reported 153,974 mandatory appeals and 54,512 discretionary petitions in 1986. This total is not complete because not all appellate courts provide this information. Three COLRs reported case filings in 1986 that had not done so for 1985: Connecticut Supreme Court (204 filings), Iowa Supreme Court (1,880), and the New York Court of Appeals (680).

Of the total number of appeals and petitions reported as filed in 1986, there were 62,148 (29.8 percent) filed in courts of last resort, and the remaining 146,338 (70.2 percent) were filed in intermediate appellate courts (IACs). This distribution of filings reflects the role of the IACs. In many states, the IAC has mandatory jurisdiction over many types of cases: 89.1 percent of IAC filings fell within this mandatory jurisdiction in 1986. By comparison, only 38 percent of all filings in courts of last resort in 1986 were mandatory appeals. Most discretionary petitions (70.8 percent) were filed in courts of last resort. These percentages are derived from Part IV, Table 1, p. 116, which provides national caseload statistics for courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts. The table divides the filings at each appellate level into mandatory cases and discretionary petitions and indicates the degree to which the data are complete and comparable.

The rate of appellate filings per state, expressed per 100,000 population, is related to the distribution of mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction. Text Table 1.1 summarizes the situation in the various states by listing their mandatory caseloads as a percentage of the total caseload. More detailed information on each appellate court can be found in Part IV. The appellate courts of Nevada, North Dakota, and Wyoming have totally mandatory jurisdiction, while New Hampshire and West Virginia have entirely discretionary jurisdiction. In other states, the percentage of mandatory appeals as a part of overall appellate caseloads varies from 98 to nearly 100 percent in Delaware, Mississippi,[4] and South Carolina to a low of 41 percent in Louisiana.

The basic caseload information for appellate courts is contained in Table 2 (p. 118), which reports the number of mandatory filings, the number of discretionary petitions filed, and the number of discretionary petitions granted. States are listed in the table according to their court structure, with states with one COLR and one IAC first, then states with only a COLR, and finally states with more than one COLR or IAC. Table 3 provides more detailed information on mandatory caseloads, and Table 4 looks in detail at discretionary caseloads.

TABLE 1.1

Mandatory Appeals Filed as a Percent of Mandatory Appeals and Discretionary Petitions Filed in 1986

State	Percent
West Virginia	0%
New Hampshire	0%
Louisiana	41%
California	48%
Massachusetts	49%
North Carolina	56%
Wisconsin	66%
Georgia	67%
Alaska	68%
Minnesota	69%
Maryland	69%
Rhode Island	70%
Tennessee	72%
Colorado	73%
Pennsylvania	73%
Arizona	74%
Washington	74%
Kentucky	76%
Missouri	77%
Alabama	79%
Texas	80%
Florida	81%
Oregon	81%
New Jersey	82%
Illinois	83%
New Mexico	85%
Ohio	85%
Idaho	86%
South Dakota	92%
Utah	92%
Montana	94%
Hawaii	95%
District of Columbia	95%
Vermont	96%
South Carolina	98%
Delaware	99%
Mississippi	100%
Wyoming	100%
North Dakota	100%
Nevada	100%

See Table 2 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

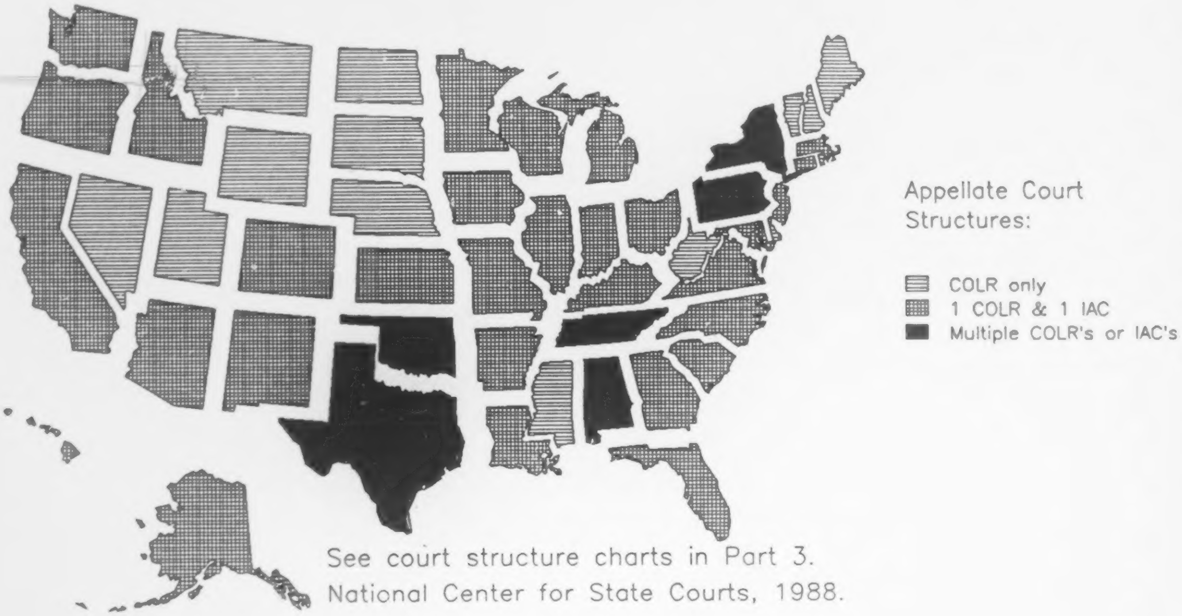
Mandatory Appellate Court Caseloads in 1986

MANDATORY APPEALS FILED IN STATE APPELLATE COURTS. Map 1.2 provides an overview of the filing rates for mandatory appeals in 1986, expressed as a rate per 100,000 population in each state. A triangle on the map indicates that a state's appellate court lacks mandatory jurisdiction, while states are left blank when relevant data are not available. Filing rates varied from a low of 25 per 100,000 population in Massachusetts to a high of 250 in the District of Columbia, duplicating the range found in 1985. After the District of Columbia, there is a gap to the next-highest filing rate: 159 per 100,000 population in Oregon. Florida (121), Arizona (104.5), and Vermont (101.7) also had rates of greater than 100 appeals filed per 100,000 of population. The filing rates per 100,000 population are

---

[4] Mandatory appeals are actually 99.7 percent of the total appeals and petitions filed in Mississippi, rounded to 100 percent in Table 1.1.

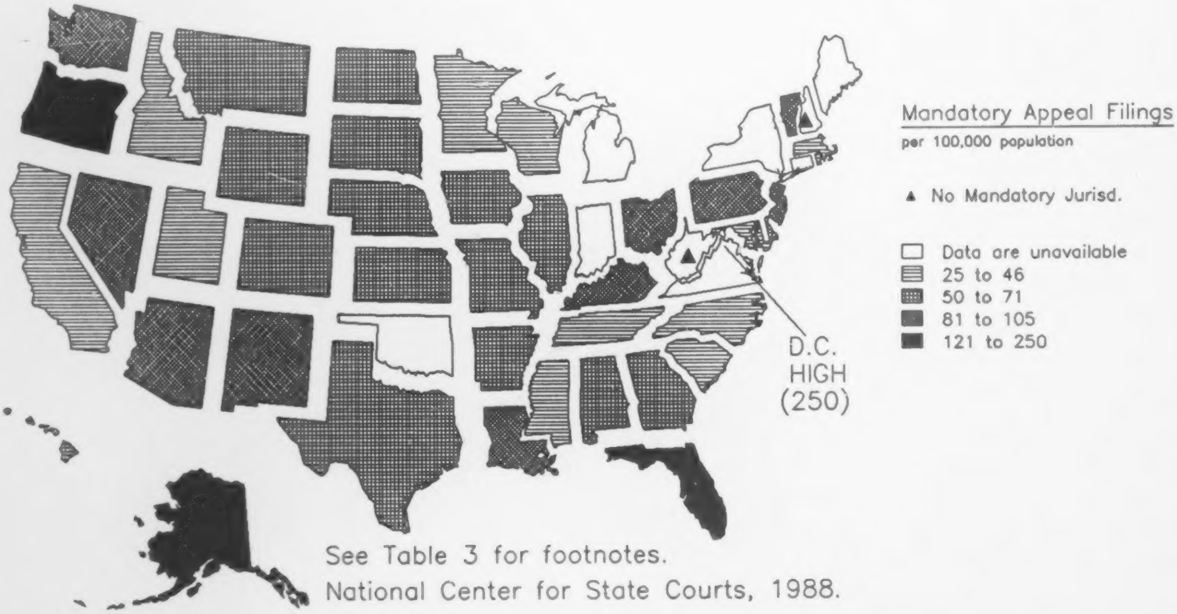
MAP 1.1: Appellate Court Structures, 1986



Appellate Court Structures:
▤ COLR only
▦ 1 COLR & 1 IAC
■ Multiple COLR's or IAC's

See court structure charts in Part 3.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

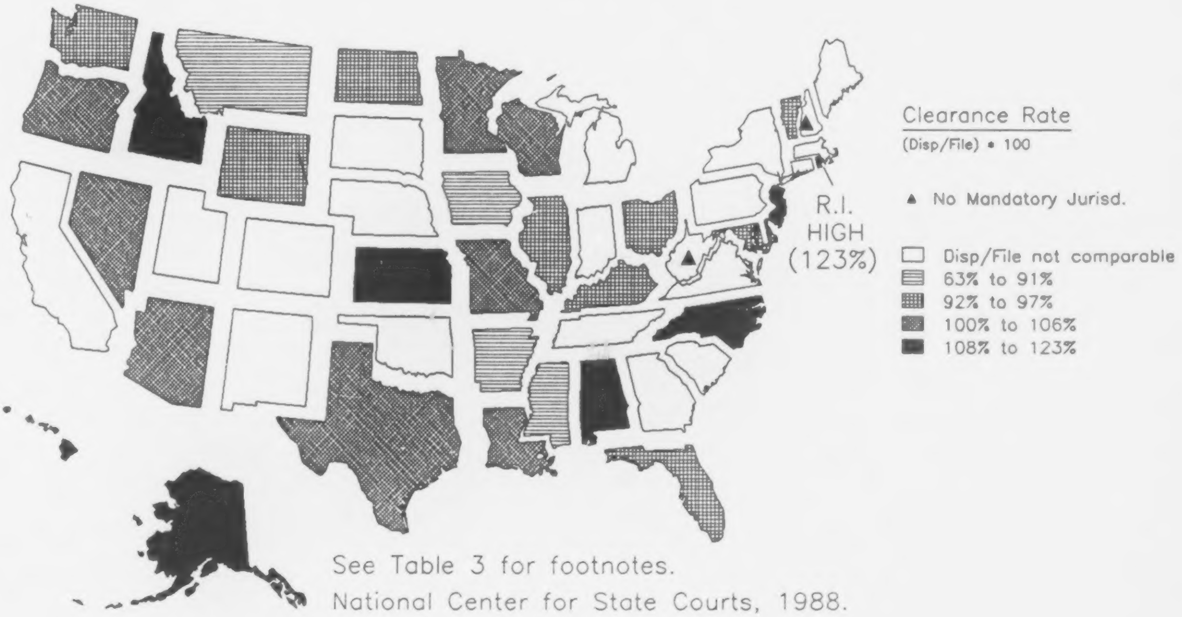
MAP 1.2: Mandatory Appellate Filings per 100,000 Population, 1986



Mandatory Appeal Filings
per 100,000 population
▲ No Mandatory Jurisd.
☐ Data are unavailable
▤ 25 to 46
▦ 50 to 71
▩ 81 to 105
■ 121 to 250
D.C. HIGH (250)

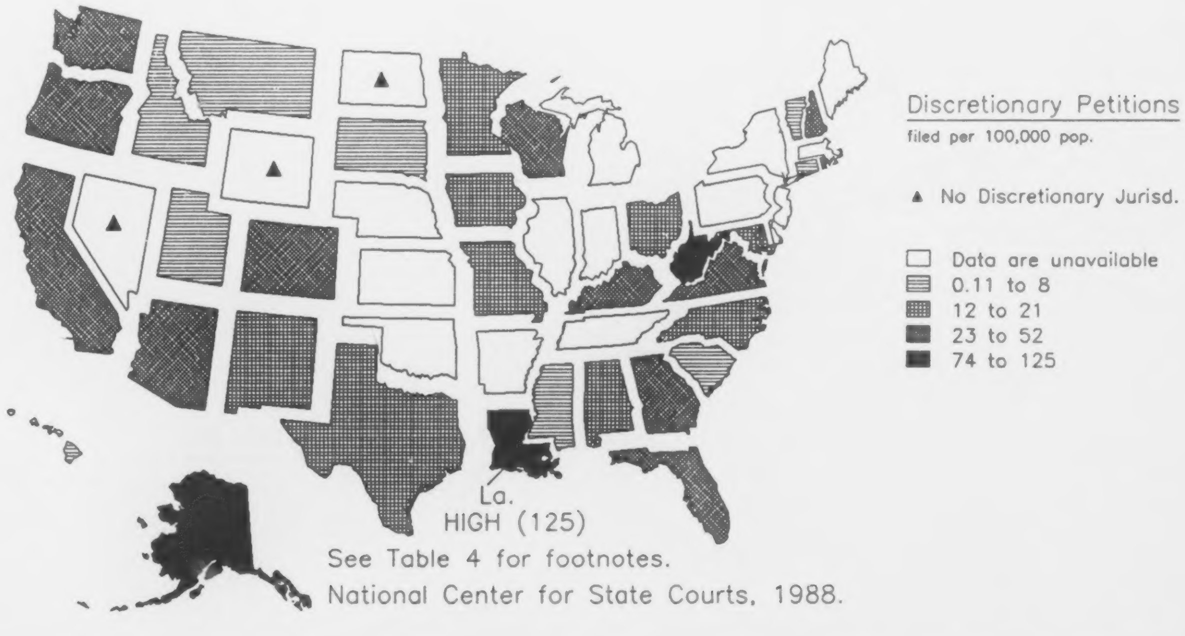
See Table 3 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

MAP 1.3: Clearance Rates for Mandatory Appellate Filings, 1986


R.I.
HIGH
(123%)
Clearance Rate
(Disp/File) • 100
▲ No Mandatory Jurisd.
☐ Disp/File not comparable
▤ 63% to 91%
▦ 92% to 97%
▩ 100% to 106%
■ 108% to 123%

See Table 3 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

MAP 1.4: Discretionary Appellate Filings per 100,000 Population, 1986


La.
HIGH (125)
Discretionary Petitions
filed per 100,000 pop.
▲ No Discretionary Jurisd.
☐ Data are unavailable
▤ 0.11 to 8
▦ 12 to 21
▩ 23 to 52
■ 74 to 125

See Table 4 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

calculated from the caseload statistics in Table 3 and the state population figures in Appendix D.

Mandatory case filing rates do not appear to be related to particular appellate court structures. The District of Columbia and Vermont with high filing rates have a single appellate court, while the other states (such as Alaska, Florida, and Oregon) with high filing rates have one COLR and one IAC. States with a COLR with discretionary jurisdiction and an IAC with strictly mandatory jurisdiction had filing rates covering the low to middle range, from South Carolina (25.8) to Alabama (71.4). Where all appellate jurisdiction is mandatory, filing rates were in the middle ranges: Nevada (88.5), North Dakota (55.5), and Wyoming (67.5).

Filing rates appear to be related to three factors. The first is the way in which jurisdiction and functions are organized in an appellate system. This explains a limited amount of the variation across the states. The second factor is the economic, social, and cultural characteristics that influence litigation and resulting appellate filings. The third factor, as noted in the footnotes to the tables, is the differences in the counting procedures (e.g., unit of count) that states use to generate their statistics and their methods of resolving recordkeeping problems, such as whether a reinstated appeal is treated as a new filing. The footnotes also note situations in which an appellate court does not provide information or where the data is not consistent with the categories recommended by the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.

The accounting differences that form the third factor affecting comparisons between states often have substantial impact. California's filing rate of 38.1 mandatory appeals per 100,000 population is among the lowest nationwide. Some states that have higher filing rates, such as Washington and Oregon, count filings at the notice of appeal. California's appellate courts, however, count mandatory filings at a later stage, the filing of the record, a point at which some cases have already been closed. California's filing rate for mandatory appeals is also affected by the fact that, unlike many states, California's COLR has no jurisdiction over judicial discipline cases. Some of the neighboring states with higher levels of filings count appellate filings in a manner that inflates their caseloads relative to California's. For example, the footnote for Oregon in Table 3 indicates that its totals are overinclusive in that some granted discretionary petitions are counted with the mandatory appeals.

There is only slight evidence of regional patterns. The northeastern states (with the exception of Massachusetts) and the western states (with the exception of California) have filing rates clustered near the second highest range shown on Map 1.2 (81 to 105 filings per 100,000 population). The southeastern states (again, with an exception—Florida) tend to fall in the lowest range of 25 to 46 filings per 100,000 population. The midwestern states tend to report filing rates in the low middle range, shown in the map as 50-71 filings per 100,000 population.

The typical pattern in most states with one or more IACs is for the COLR to receive only a small portion of the mandatory cases filed. There are exceptions. In Hawaii, Idaho, and New Mexico, the COLR receives more mandatory appeals than the IAC. Table 3 provides information on the relative distribution of mandatory appeals between COLRs and IACs. The organization charts in Part III indicate the underlying division of subject matter jurisdiction within each state with more than one appellate court.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR MANDATORY APPEALS IN 1986. Map 1.3 displays variations in the clearance rates for mandatory appeals. The map again gives statewide ranges, combining all appellate courts in the state and showing mandatory appeals decided in 1986 as a percentage of those filed in that year for both COLRs and IACs. Where filings and dispositions are not reported in a manner comparable to other states, the state is left blank on the map.

A clearance rate is calculated by dividing the number of dispositions in a year by the number of filings in that year and then multiplying by 100. A percentage over 100 indicates that the appellate courts in a state disposed of more appeals than were filed, thus reducing their pending caseload. Clearance rates range from a low of 63 percent in Montana to a high of 123 percent in Rhode Island. The extent of that range suggests that clearance rates may fluctuate with short-term trends that affect the work of the appellate courts. Prior caseload statistics reports reveal that a state's clearance rate often changes sharply from year to year.

Thirty states and the District of Columbia report comparable data and are included in the map. Of these, 17 have clearance of greater than 100 percent and are reducing the size of their pending caseload. There is only one apparent consistency in the ranking of these jurisdictions: those with one appellate court tend to be found in the lower range of clearance rates. Six out of the 14 jurisdictions that had clearance rates of 97 percent or less (Delaware, Mississippi, Montana, North Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming) have one appellate court. Only three with one appellate court had clearance rates of over 100 percent and are thus reducing their pending caseloads (the District of Columbia, Nevada, and Rhode Island).

Discretionary Appellate Caseloads in 1986

DISCRETIONARY PETITIONS FILED. The 54,512 discretionary petitions recorded in Table 3 (and with additional details in Table 4) are an incomplete count of the total number filed nationally in 1986. Most states have an appellate system in which the COLR, and many of the IACs, have split mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction. The tendency, however, is for mandatory filings to predominate in the intermediate appellate courts.

Map 1.4 draws upon Table 4 to show the pattern of discretionary petitions per 100,000 population for 1986. States with totally mandatory jurisdiction are indicated by a triangle, and states with partial discretionary jurisdiction for which rates are not available are left blank on the map. Of the 33 states for which comparable data are available, Louisiana has the highest filing rate: 122 per 100,000 population. This rate is considerably higher than its mandatory case filing rate of 85. In most states, however, the gap is more substantial, since the bulk of their total appellate case filings is in the form of mandatory appeals.

Generally, there is a closer association between filing rates and jurisdiction for discretionary filings than was evident for mandatory filings. West Virginia and New

TABLE 1.2

Discretionary Petitions Granted as a Percent of Total Discretionary Cases Filed

State	Percent Granted Review
Missouri	7%
Ohio	12%
Oregon	14%
Texas	14%
Hawaii	16%
Louisiana	23%
Minnesota	25%
New Mexico	31%
West Virginia	37%

See Table 2 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

TABLE 1.3

Discretionary Petitions Decided as a Percentage Discretionary of Petitions Filed

State	Percent
Montana	53%
Alabama	76%
New Hampshire	78%
Virginia	86%
Washington	87%
Vermont	88%
Texas	88%
West Virginia	88%
Ohio	88%
Florida	89%
Idaho	92%
District of Columbia	95%
Alaska	98%
Illinois	99%
Arizona	100%
Mississippi	100%
Minnesota	101%
Louisiana	102%
North Carolina	102%
Oregon	102%
Maryland	104%
Hawaii	105%
Kentucky	107%
Rhode Island	118%
Iowa	148%

See Table 4 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

Hampshire, the two states with completely discretionary appellate jurisdiction, for example, stand in the top range of filings (82.6 and 52, respectively). Alaska, with the third highest filing rate (74.3), has a supreme court with criminal jurisdiction that is totally discretionary and civil jurisdiction that is totally mandatory. The Alaska Court of Appeals (an IAC) has no civil jurisdiction but has jurisdiction for criminal case appeals that is mandatory or discretionary depending on the type of appeal. There remains, however, substantial variation between states. Some of that variation can be explained by different units of count and filing procedures.

Filing a discretionary petition does not guarantee appellate review. Table 5 provides the available information regarding discretionary filings in 1986, including the number of petitions filed and decided. Text Table 1.2 summarizes the percentages granted for those states for which complete and comparable data are available. Percentages are given for states when all appellate courts with discretionary jurisdiction are included. In some states, only the COLR has discretionary jurisdiction, and, therefore, its petition data are the basis for calculation of the state's overall percentage.

In West Virginia, 37 percent of discretionary petitions were granted. That is the highest rate of the nine states for which complete and comparable data are available. West Virginia's appellate court has no mandatory jurisdiction. More than one in five discretionary petitions were granted in the appellate courts of Louisiana (23 percent), Minnesota (25 percent), and New Mexico (31 percent). By contrast, the appellate courts of Missouri granted less than one of every 14 petitions (7 percent).

CLEARANCE RATES FOR DISCRETIONARY PETITIONS. Text Table 1.3 provides information on discretionary petitions that were decided during 1986 as a percentage of those filed in that year (more detailed breakdowns can be found in the source table, Table 4). Comparable disposition and filing data are available for 24 states and the District of Colombia. The resulting clearance rates show considerable variation, although not as much as was found for mandatory appeals. Iowa, with 148 percent, has the highest rate. Eight other states (Hawaii, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oregon, and Rhode Island) were reducing their pending petition caseload through clearance rates of over 100 percent. Four of these states—Louisiana, North Carolina, Oregon, and Rhode Island—also reduced their statewide mandatory caseload during 1986. Montana, with 53 percent, had the lowest discretionary petition clearance rate among the states in the Text Table. The position of Montana and Rhode Island at opposite ends of the spectrum parallels that found for mandatory appeals clearance rates. If overall clearance rates are calculated for both appeals and discretionary petitions, Rhode Island has the highest (121 percent) and Montana the lowest (58 percent). Both states have a single appellate court, but Montana receives a greater share of its caseload in the form of mandatory appeals.

Appellate Court Workloads in 1986

One index of appellate court workloads is the total number of mandatory appeals filed and discretionary petitions granted. Overall, 20 percent of the petitions filed in the states with complete and comparable data were subsequently granted by the appellate court. For 16 states and the District of Columbia, it is possible to combine the number of mandatory appeals filed with the number of

TABLE 1.4

State Appellate Caseloads in 1986: Mandatory Appeals Filed and Discretionary Petitions Granted

State	Rate per 100,000 Population	Mandatory Appeals as Percent of Total*
South Carolina	26.5	97%
North Carolina	29.0	89%
West Virginia	30.2	0%
California	41.4	92%
Minnesota	51.2	90%
North Dakota	55.5	100%
Arkansas	57.4	100%
Texas	62.4	97%
Missouri	66.7	98%
Wyoming	67.5	100%
Hawaii	69.9	99%
Nevada	88.5	100%
Ohio	96.5	98%
New Mexico	101.1	95%
Louisiana	112.9	75%
Oregon	164.3	97%
District of Columbia	249.6	100%

*Appellate courts in Arkansas, Nevada, North Dakota, and Wyoming have no discretionary jurisdiction; of the states included in the table, West Virginia's COLR has exclusively discretionary jurisdiction.

Source: Table 2 and Appendix D.

discretionary petitions granted in order to determine appellate court workloads. The result is shown in Text Table 1.4, expressed as a number of filings per 100,000 population. The rates vary from a low of 26.5 filings per 100,000 population in South Carolina to a high of 249.6 per 100,000 population in the District of Columbia. Comparatively low filing rates were also found in North Carolina (29.0) and West Virginia (30.2). The rate for California's appellate courts was relatively low (41.4 filings per capita). Ohio (96.5), New Mexico (101.1), Louisiana (112.9), and Oregon (164.3) had high workloads, as measured in Text Table 1.4.

Appellate Court Opinions in 1986

Table 6 provides the number of majority opinions published by state appellate courts, shown separately for each COLR and IAC. To facilitate comparisons between appellate courts, which range in size from three judges (Alaska Court of Appeals) to 77 judges (California Courts of Appeal), the volume of opinions is also shown as a rate per judge/ justice.

The preparation of opinions is another important index of the work of the appellate courts. However, problems of comparability exist between courts in what is defined as an opinion and in how opinions are counted. The number of opinions prepared in a court will reflect the relative weight of its mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction and the court's place in the state's appellate hierarchy. Table 6 provides extensive information on the subject matter jurisdiction of each appellate court, whether opinions are counted by case or by written document, and whether the count includes majority opinions, per curiam opinions, and memos/ orders. Information on the size of the lawyer support staff available to the court is also included to aid in interpreting the opinion statistics.

The number of written opinions for COLRs varies considerably. Most courts of last resort in states with an IAC report several hundred opinions for 1986. The range extends from 58 in the Supreme Court of New Jersey to 696 in the South Carolina Supreme Court. There was limited variation for COLRs in states without intermediate appellate courts.

The number of written majority opinions in the IACs is tied more directly to the size of the state. The highest number of dispositions by opinion was in California, with a total of 9,458. IACs in states like Louisiana, Michigan, New Jersey, and Ohio reported more than 3,500 opinions. The subject matter jurisdiction of appellate courts, as portrayed in Table 6, does not differ significantly among courts within a state or between states. The impact of differences in the allocation of mandatory and discretionary appellate jurisdiction, however, is evident.

The discussion of Table 6, like that referring to the contents of the other five tables on appellate court caseloads, illustrates the range and quality of the information available. Those interested in particular topics or in particular states are directed to the organization charts in Part III and the detailed tables in Part IV.

Trial Court Caseloads in 1986

This section summarizes the contents of Tables 7-12, in Part III. Those tables describe the 1986 caseloads of the nation's state trial courts for general civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. As with the discussion of appellate caseloads, the focus of the text is on statewide levels. Maps report the aggregate activity of all courts with relevant jurisdiction in a state. The tables in Part IV, however, report statistics for individual trial court systems in each state *and* for the state total caseload. The tables also contain footnotes that outline the differences between states in the unit of count, the allocation of jurisdiction for particular types of cases, and state-defined categories of cases that overlap several CSIM casetypes.

General and Limited Trial Court Jurisdiction

The distinction between a limited and general jurisdiction court is basic to understanding patterns in the distribution of trial court caseloads. Limited jurisdiction trial courts are variously called municipal courts, magistrates courts, or justice of the peace courts. They share a limited range of subject matter jurisdiction, generally minor civil and minor criminal cases, as defined by law. Traffic and local ordinance violations form the bulk of the work of most state limited jurisdiction trial courts.

Limited jurisdiction courts often have subject matter jurisdiction that overlaps with that of a state's general jurisdiction trial courts, which are the major courts of record from which there is a right of appeal. In preparing the criminal caseload statistics reported in this series, violations of traffic laws or ordinances are not counted (see the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*). This leaves misdemeanors and certain types of felonies (termed "triable felonies" as a caseload category, because the case can be tried to completion in the court in which it is filed) as the main component of most limited jurisdiction court's caseloads. The majority of cases reaching general jurisdiction trial courts are civil filings. Of the cases filed in 1986 included in these statistics, criminal cases represented exactly one half of limited jurisdiction caseloads nationally and 27.2 percent of general jurisdiction court caseloads. Defining a court as an administratively distinct entity, there were, in 1986, some 2,250 general jurisdiction and 13,230 limited jurisdiction courts in the United States (totals derived from court structure charts in Part III).

The District of Columbia offers an example of the factors that need to be considered when making comparisons. The District of Columbia's court organization is fully unified, with one trial court assuming all civil and criminal jurisdiction. The defendant is the unit of count in criminal cases. If the unit of count were informations or indictments, which may contain multiple defendants, the number of filings would be less; if the unit of count were charges, reported filings would be greater (see Figure D, p. 215). Further, the District of Columbia is a high-density urban area, and its economic and social structure is not comparable to that of the states, which include areas that range from low to high population density.

Total Civil Filings in 1986

Map 1.5 shows the allocation of the 15.7 million civil filings recorded in Table 7. Caseload levels are indicated by shading that becomes darker as the per capita population filing rate increases. The caseloads include tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, domestic relations, estate, and mental health cases. In addition, the total civil caseload for many states includes appeals from decisions by administrative agencies and appeals from limited jurisdiction trial courts to general jurisdiction trial courts.

Civil caseload statistics are available in 1986 from eight trial court systems not included in previous annual caseload reports. Filings in those eight courts account for nearly one half of the increase between 1985-1986 in the number of civil cases reported. A total of 126 court systems, defined here as a level in a state trial court hierarchy, are included in Table 8.[5]

The organization charts in Part III are the basic source of information on the types of courts found in each state and the allocation of subject matter jurisdiction among them. The main obstacle to comparability between states is the incompleteness of data from limited jurisdiction courts. In 18 of the 47 states reporting comparable civil filing data, one or more statewide limited jurisdiction court systems did not provide the relevant information. In Map 1.5, states missing one limited jurisdiction court system are included but marked with a dot. This accounts for 16 of the 18 states with incomplete reporting at the lower jurisdiction court level. In the remaining two states, Tennessee and Oregon, two limited jurisdiction court systems did not report, and the states are therefore left blank on the map. The map is therefore useful primarily as a summary of the contents of Table 8. It is more informative to examine patterns in state caseload information for general and limited jurisdiction courts separately. This alleviates some of the problems of comparability between states with different court structures: the District of Columbia and five states—Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and South Dakota—did not have limited jurisdiction courts in 1986.[6]

Map 1.5 does, however, provide a broad overview of the magnitude of civil caseloads. The District of Columbia has the highest filing level, 23,242 per 100,000 population, and Montana the lowest, 3,445. If we place each state in the context of its regional pattern, the impact of incomplete limited jurisdiction court data is evident. States such as Maine, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, and South Carolina are shown with filing rates lower than their neighbors, and inclusion of the missing limited jurisdiction court would make their caseloads more consistent with that typical of their region. The map does, however, indicate a basic ranking of states. States such as Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, and Oklahoma are among those with the highest civil filing levels despite the absence of data from a limited jurisdiction court.

CIVIL FILINGS IN GENERAL JURISDICTION TRIAL COURTS. Table 9 provides detailed information on civil filings and dispositions per court. Map 1.6 extracts statewide per capita filings for general jurisdiction courts. States with only general jurisdiction trial courts can be expected to have higher filing rates on the map than those states with both general and limited jurisdiction courts. They are marked with a triangle. Mississippi and Nevada did not report 1986 trial caseload statistics to the NCSC.

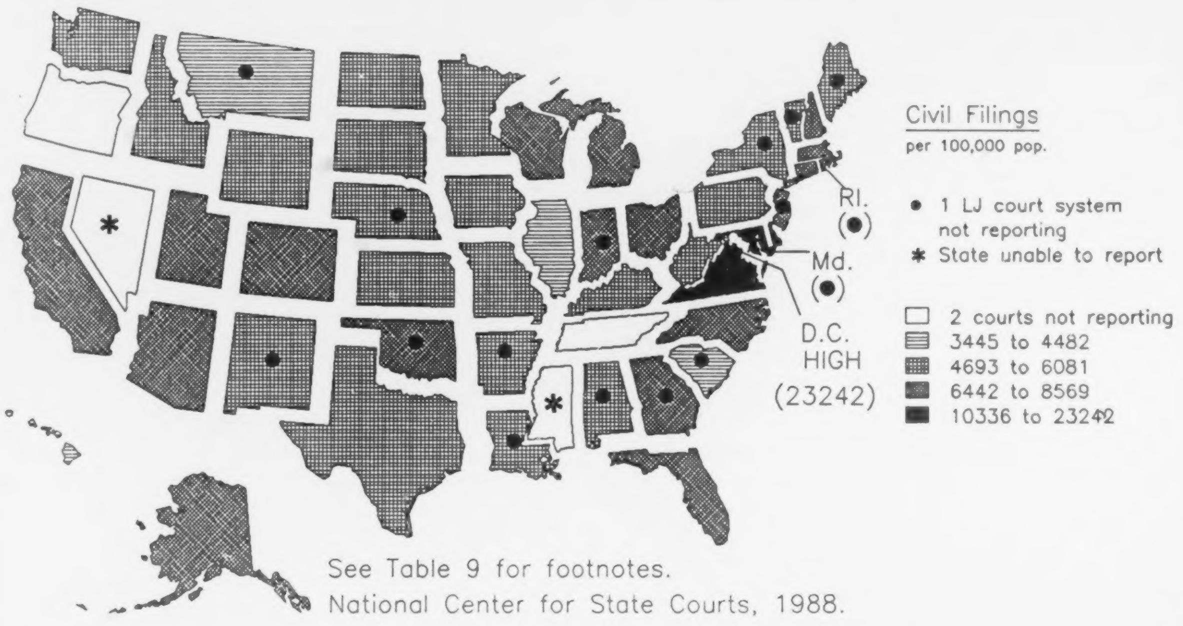
Filings range from the low of 565 per 100,000 population in Maine to 23,242 in the District of Columbia. Maine is atypical of the New England states, which tend to have filing rates above 1,000. This divergence from the regional pattern is partly attributable to the allocation of civil jurisdiction among Maine's trial courts. In Maine, the limited jurisdiction courts assume the bulk of the non-tort civil caseload. It also reflects the way in which Maine's trial courts treat reopened cases. Similar to Rhode Island, which also has a low filing rate, Maine does not count reopened cases as new filings, while other states in the region—Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Vermont (partially)—do (see Figure H, p. 235).

---

[5] The eight court systems are Colorado County (144,766), Georgia Probate (22,946), Georgia Magistrates (183,166), Tenessee General Sessions (3,073), Texas Municipal (561), Texas Justice of the Peace (268,337), Wyoming Justice of the Peace (4,334), and Wyoming County (15,896). Four courts included in the 1985 report are not listed in Table 8. The Minnesota County Court was consolidated into the state's unified trial court system. The Nebraska Municipal Court was merged with the County Court. The Guam Superior Court is not included in the 1986 report, although it was in previous annual caseload statistics reports. Filing statistics for the Indiana Probate Court were not available for 1986, although they were included in the 1985 annual caseload report. Finally, two courts (the Delaware Alderman's Court and the Maine Administrative Court) did not report any civil case filings in 1986, although they reported filings in the previous year.

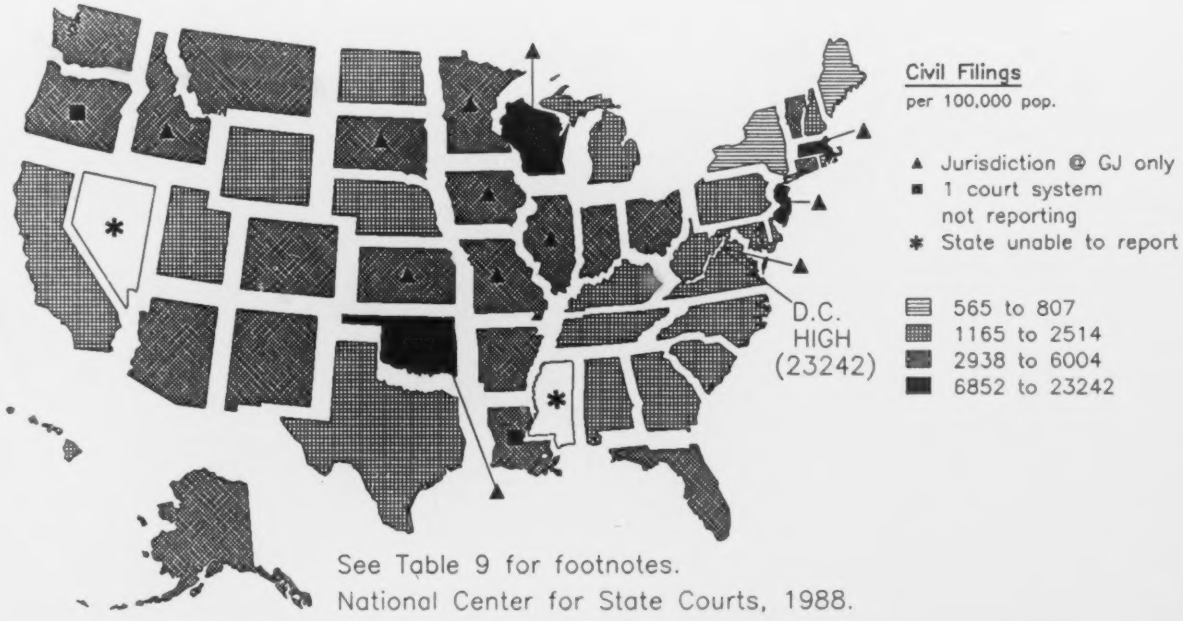
[6] The general and limited jurisdiction trial courts in Minnesota were merged into a unified court system in 1987. Caseload statistics for 1986 were collected in anticipation of that change and thus Tables 1-12 in Part IV list a single trial court for the state.

MAP 1.5: Civil Caseload per 100,000 Population, 1986


RI.
(●)
Md.
(●)
D.C.
HIGH
(23242)
Civil Filings
per 100,000 pop.
● 1 LJ court system not reporting
✱ State unable to report
☐ 2 courts not reporting
▤ 3445 to 4482
▦ 4693 to 6081
▩ 6442 to 8569
■ 10336 to 23242

See Table 9 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

MAP 1.6: General Jurisdiction Civil Caseload per 100,000 Population, 1986


Civil Filings
per 100,000 pop.
▲ Jurisdiction @ GJ only
■ 1 court system not reporting
✱ State unable to report
D.C.
HIGH
(23242)
▤ 565 to 807
▦ 1165 to 2514
▩ 2938 to 6004
■ 6852 to 23242

See Table 9 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

The method used to count domestic relations cases also varies among the states in a manner that affects their ranking (see the footnotes in Table 9). In some states, support/custody cases are counted as separate filings, while in other states such cases are treated as part of the original filing for a divorce. Most states count support/custody proceedings as part of the original filing unless they involve issues that arise at a later point in time or as a post-decree filing.

Consideration of the bookkeeping underlying the statistics often offers a partial explanation for states that seem to deviate from a clear regional pattern. For example, all states in the southeastern region, except Florida, have filing rates ranging from 1,100 to 2,500 per 100,000 population. Florida's substantially higher filing rate (3,793) reflects in part the practice of counting all support/custody matters as separate cases. Other states in the region combine marriage dissolution and support/custody as a single case filing, unless there is an independent filing on the support/custody issue.

General jurisdiction filings are highest in states without limited jurisdiction courts. Other states with high filing levels (greater than 2,900 per capita) include Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Indiana, Montana, New Mexico, Ohio, and Washington; Oregon also falls into that category, despite the absence of filing data for one of its general jurisdiction courts. The relatively lower levels of filings in New England are partially explained by the caseloads carried by their limited jurisdiction courts.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR CIVIL CASES IN GENERAL JURISDICTION TRIAL COURTS. Map 1.7 displays clearance rates for general jurisdiction court civil caseloads in 1986. Each state's rate is calculated by dividing the number of dispositions in that year by the number of filings and expressing the result as a percentage. The source is Table 9. Civil clearance rates range from 75 percent in Washington to 129 percent in Utah. Eleven of the 44 states with comparable filing and disposition data cleared more than 100 percent of their 1986 caseload, and thus reduced their pending caseload. With the exception of Idaho, states with particularly high clearance rates (104 percent or above) fell in the middle range of states in terms of per capita filings. These states include Hawaii, Maine, Nebraska, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming.

Overall, with the exception of Idaho and New Jersey, a high filing rate seems to be associated with a low clearance rate. Maine, for example, had the lowest per 100,000 population filing rate and one of the highest clearance rates (107 percent). A full interpretation of the relationship, however, requires consideration of the distribution within each state of the subject matter jurisdiction between limited and general jurisdiction courts.

Total Criminal Filings in 1986

The 11 million criminal case filings recorded in Table 7 are an aggregate of felony, misdemeanors, driving while intoxicated (DWI) cases, and criminal cases that originated at the limited jurisdiction level and are heard through appeal in a general jurisdiction court (see Figure H, p. 235). In calculating state trial court caseloads, filings in limited jurisdiction courts of felony cases for the purpose of holding a preliminary hearing are excluded from the total if the result is a defendant being bound over for trial in a court of general jurisdiction. The case is thus only counted once, as a filing at the general jurisdiction level. Data on criminal case filings were available for 52 general jurisdiction court systems and 58 limited jurisdiction court systems in 1986 (with a court system defined as a level in a state's court hierarchy—see Table 8 for a listing). This is an increase of six over the number of limited jurisdiction courts included in the 1985 caseload statistics. Filings from those court systems account for 1,161,786 of the 1,438,277 additional criminal cases filed in 1986 over the 1985 reported total.[7]

Filing rates per 100,000 population are calculated on the basis of the adult population in each state and can be found in Table 10. Map 1.8 displays statewide filing rates, which combine all trial courts that have criminal jurisdiction.

The range extends from a low of 1,833 per 100,000 population in Kansas to a high of 16,767 in Delaware, a very substantial range. Generally, the highest filing rates (10,000 per 100,000 population or greater) are found in the mid-Atlantic region (District of Columbia, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia) and in the south/southwestern region (Arizona, Arkansas, New Mexico, and Texas). In two of these states—Arkansas and West Virginia—the high filing rate is without the inclusion of statistics from a limited jurisdiction trial court. Alaska, Idaho, Kentucky, Nebraska (despite incomplete reporting), and South Dakota also had relatively high filing rates (greater than 5,900 per 100,000 population). The pattern seems to be that high filing rates are concentrated in the southern half of the country, and that the availability of complete data from other states in that geographic area would probably reinforce this pattern.[8]

Despite the evidence of regional differences, the filing rates for particular states only become explicable with reference to the detailed information in Table 10. The statistics for many states are based on categories and counting methods that differ from the CSIM Project approach. As a result, the statewide rates shown in Map 1.8 are the product of some factors that cause the number of criminal filings to include some cases that are not relevant and to exclude still others that are relevant. The rates cited for Arkansas, Delaware, North Carolina, and Virginia, for example, all include some ordinance violations that cannot be separated from the category of criminal caseload as defined in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.

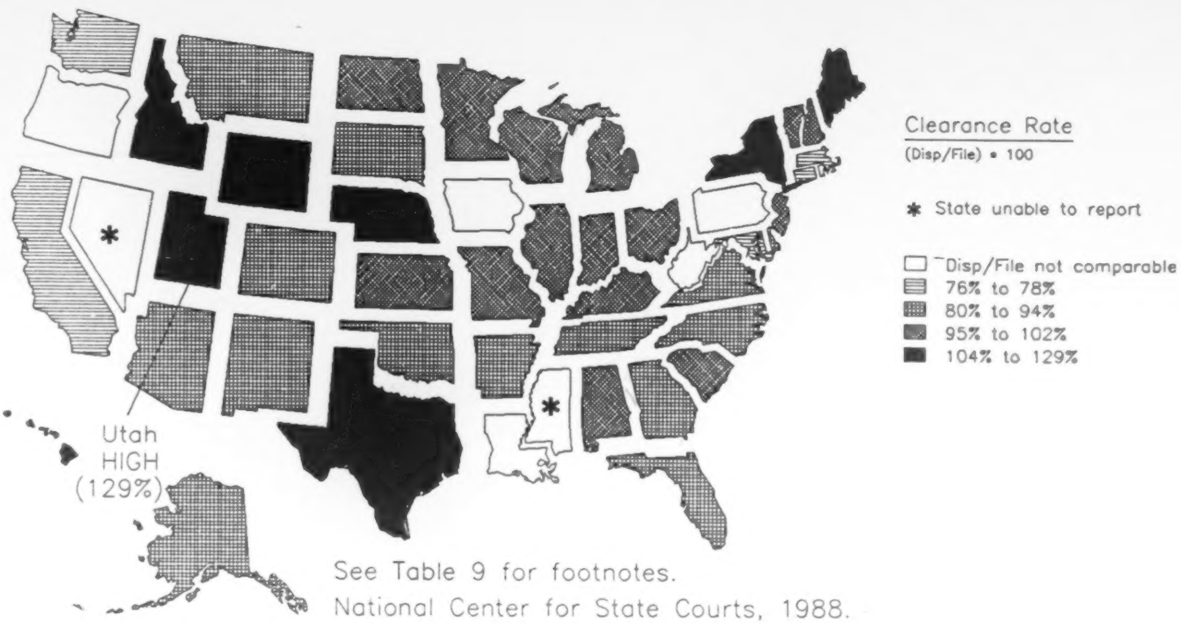
The distribution of high and low filing rates among the states does not correspond to what is known from police

---

[7] The six courts are Georgia State (113,056 filings), Georgia Probate (5,146), Texas Justice of the Peace (555,580), Texas Municipal (472,992), Wyoming County (11,233), and Wyoming Justice of the Peace (3,776). The trial courts of Minnesota and Nebraska are consolidated in the 1986 caseload report; caseload figures are not provided for the Guam Superior Court.

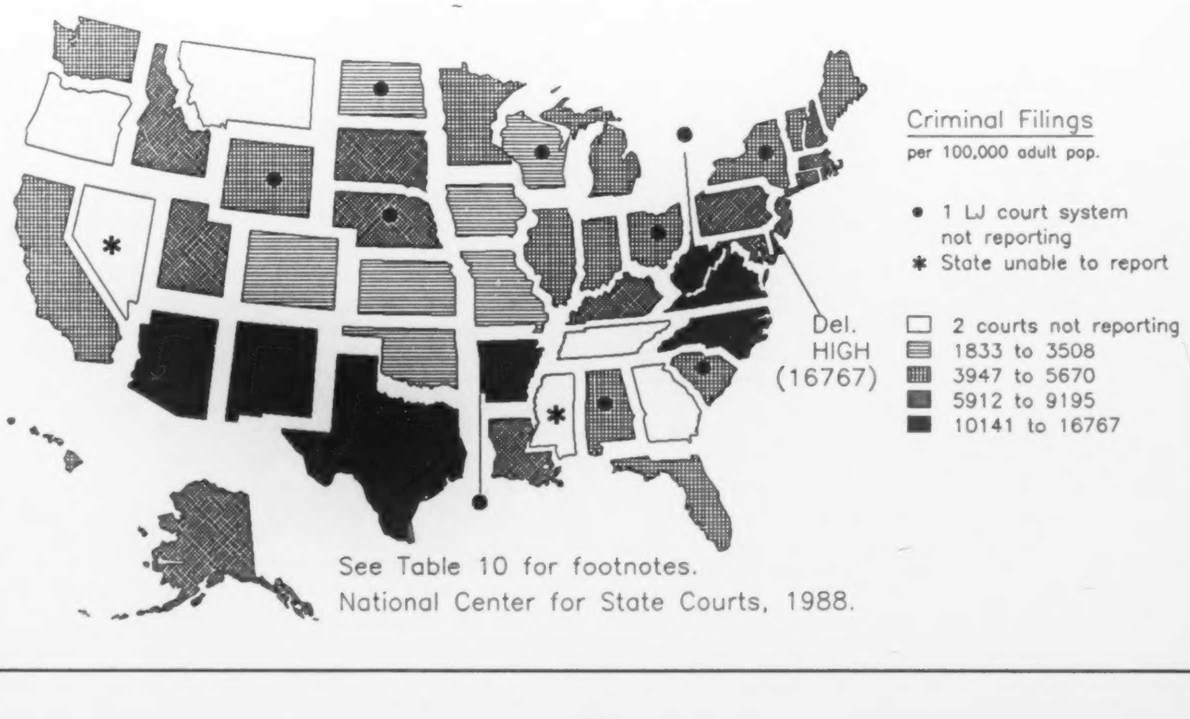
[8] The number of criminal cases filed in the Louisiana District Court is estimated based on information provided by the Office of the Judicial Administrator, Judicial Council of the Supreme Court of Louisiana. Published caseload statistics for the district court include traffic/other violation cases as part of the criminal caseload. To make the definition of criminal filings consistent with the CSIM Project casetype, which does exclude traffic/other violations, a sample of the 1986 district court cases was examined. Thirty percent of the cases in the sample fell within the CSIM Project casetype, and that percentage was applied to obtain estimated criminal filings.

MAP 1.7: Civil Clearance Rates for General Jurisdiction Courts, 1986


Clearance Rate
(Disp/File) • 100
✱ State unable to report
☐ Disp/File not comparable
▤ 76% to 78%
▦ 80% to 94%
▩ 95% to 102%
■ 104% to 129%
Utah
HIGH
(129%)
✱

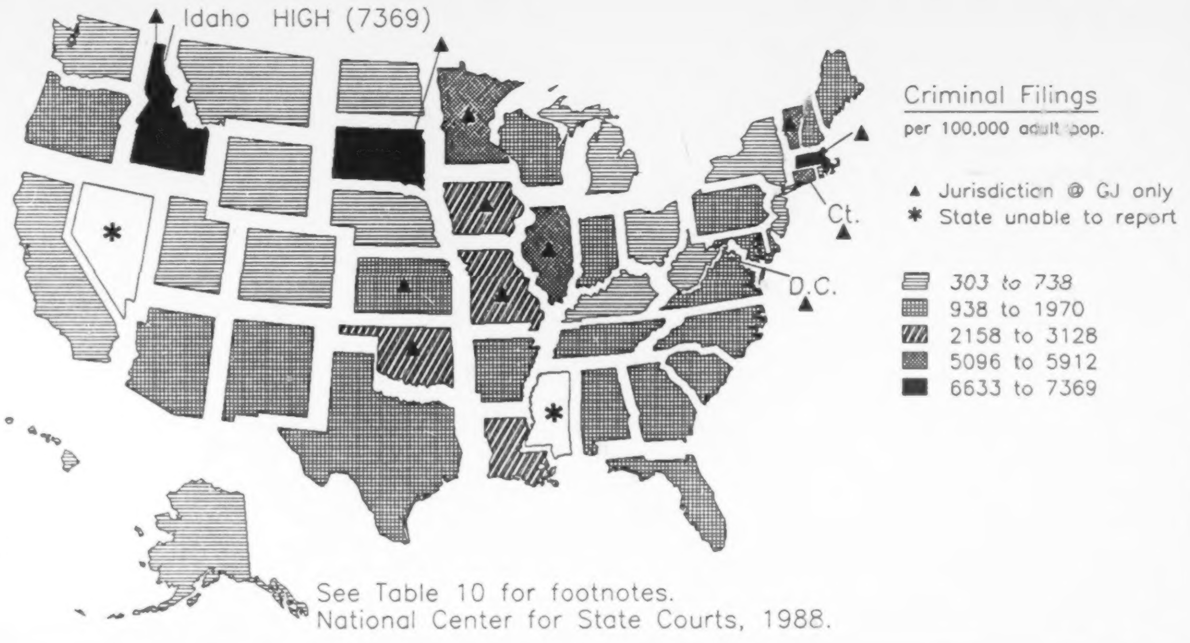
See Table 9 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

MAP 1.8: Criminal Caseload per 100,000 Population, 1986


Criminal Filings
per 100,000 adult pop.
● 1 LJ court system not reporting
✱ State unable to report
☐ 2 courts not reporting
▤ 1833 to 3508
▦ 3947 to 5670
▩ 5912 to 9195
■ 10141 to 16767
Del.
HIGH
(16767)
✱

See Table 10 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

MAP 1.9: General Jurisdiction Criminal Caseload per 100,000 Population, 1986



See Table 10 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

statistics or crime victimization surveys about variation in crime rates. Instead, there is evidence of a strong regional pattern in the way in which cases are processed through the criminal justice system. This replicates the conclusions drawn from other sources of court statistics. In its 1985 census of felony courts, the Bureau of Justice Statistics found that the South accounted for 34 percent of all reported crime, 38 percent of all arrests, and 59 percent of all felony filings: "a person arrested for a crime in the South was more likely to be prosecuted and convicted in a felony court than a person arrested for a crime in any other region."[9]

CRIMINAL FILINGS IN GENERAL JURISDICTION TRIAL COURTS. As with civil filings, the national pattern is complicated by the restricted amount of information available from limited jurisdiction courts. This makes it difficult to make comparisons between states with and without limited jurisdiction courts or to focus on the more serious types of cases, which tend to be tried in general jurisdiction courts. Map 1.9 focuses on state criminal filings in general jurisdiction courts (see Table 10, p. 176). States not reporting data are noted with asterisks, and triangles are used to designate those states with only a general jurisdiction court.

The information summarized in Map 1.9 modifies the extent to which filings can be viewed as concentrated in the South. The highest filing rate is in Idaho (7,368 per 100,000 population), but the other states with rates over 6,000 per 100,000 population, are diversely located: Massachusetts and South Dakota. All three are states that do not have limited jurisdiction courts.

The states with high overall criminal filing rates, as shown in Map 1.8, are in the bottom part of the range for filing rates in general jurisdiction courts (roughly 900 to 2,000). This points to the role of the limited jurisdiction court as the predominant point at which criminal cases are filed in the South. All of the southern states have both general and limited jurisdiction trial courts. This fits with the pattern of low to average levels of recorded crime in the South, combined with a higher than typical propensity to prosecute minor offenses. This results in a more extensive use of limited jurisdiction courts than in other regions. Limited jurisdiction courts in many states can dispose of some felony offenses (called "limited felony" cases in the court organization charts located in Part III). Minor offenses, however, form the bulk of their filings.

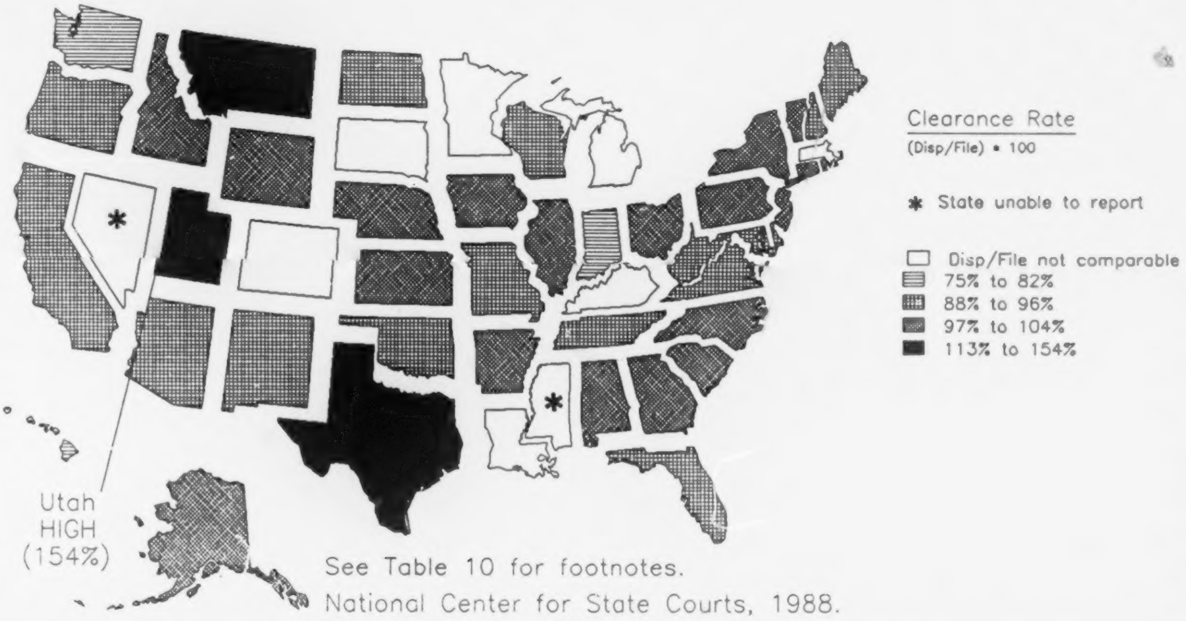
Criminal caseloads are concentrated in the limited jurisdiction courts of the 37 states that initiate criminal proceedings in both limited and general jurisdiction trial courts. In both Utah and West Virginia, for example, 95 percent of criminal case filings occur in a limited jurisdiction trial court. Ninety percent or more of the criminal filings in 14 other states occur in limited jurisdiction courts, with at least three quarters of the filings in most of the remaining states occurring at that court level. The caseloads of the general jurisdiction courts will tend to consist of more serious offenses, such as felonies, and to lead to jury rather than bench trials.

The remaining 11 states (excluding Mississippi and Nevada, for which statistics are not available) are marked

---

[9] Pat Langan and Wayne Logan, *State Felony Courts and Felony Laws*, Washington D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics, NCJ-106273.

MAP 1.10: Criminal Clearance Rates for General Jurisdiction Courts, 1986



See Table 10 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

with a triangle in Map 1.9. Connecticut, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Vermont have limited jurisdiction courts, but criminal cases cannot be filed in those courts. Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and South Dakota have unified their trial courts into a single level. Case filings in the general jurisdiction courts will represent the full range of offenses in the state's criminal code.

The highest filing rates per 100,000 population in Map 1.9 are found in states with unified trial courts or with limited jurisdiction courts that do not receive criminal case filings. All of their 1986 criminal caseloads are thus included in the map. That partly explains why Idaho, Massachusetts, and South Dakota emerge as the states with the highest filing rates in general jurisdiction trial courts. However, the three states also have relatively high filing rates as noted in Map 1.8, where filings in limited jurisdiction courts are included.

Most states are rather differently situated in the rankings presented in Maps 1.8 and 1.9. The summary presentations of state criminal caseloads in the two maps therefore highlight the importance of examining the court organization charts in Part III when interpreting the filing rates of particular states. Rates per 100,000 population combine the statistics received for all courts in a state that have relevant subject matter jurisdiction.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR CRIMINAL CASES IN GENERAL JURISDICTION TRIAL COURTS. Map 1.10, which refers to the information contained in Table 10, provides clearance rates for criminal cases achieved by general jurisdiction trial courts in 1986. Comparable filing and disposition data are available for 41 states and the District of Columbia. Of these, Utah reported the highest clearance rate (154 percent) and Hawaii the lowest (75 percent). Arkansas, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, and Texas all cleared more than 100 percent of their criminal caseload during the year. Many east coast states maintained clearance rates close to 100 percent despite the fact that the highest rates were in the western states.

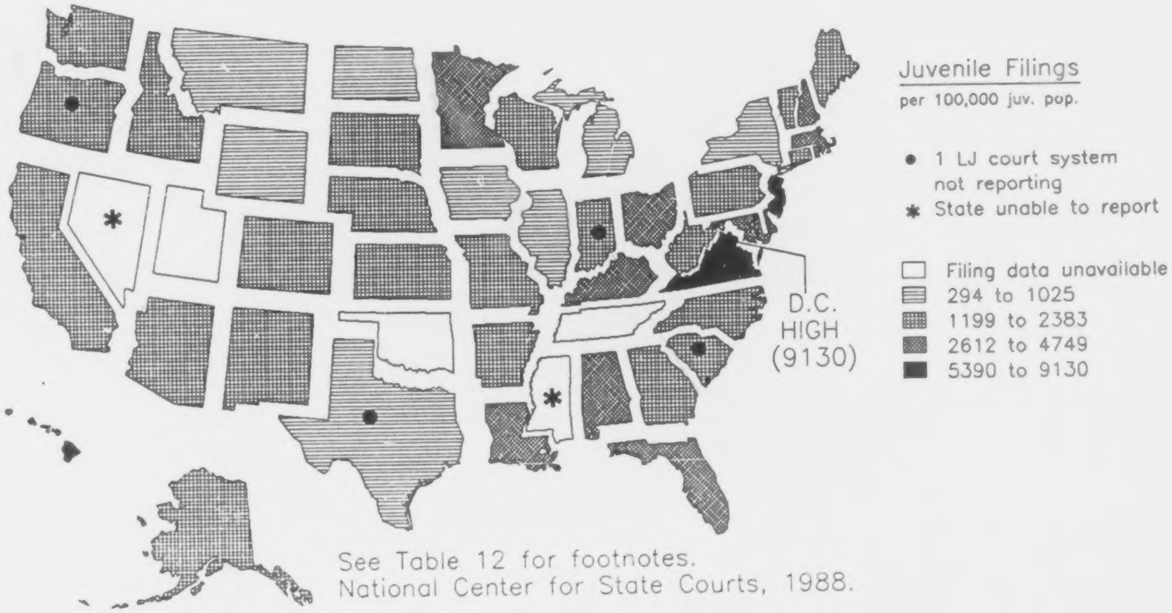
There is no evidence that associates high clearance rates with a particular type of court system structure. There is as much diversity among states without limited jurisdiction courts in their clearance rates as among those states with both levels of trial courts. The data for 1986, however, do suggest some relationship between the magnitude of the filing rate and clearance rates. Most states with low filing rates fall in the upper part of the range for clearance rates, while low clearance rates usually exist for those states with filing rates that are high compared to the national average.

Total Juvenile Caseloads in 1986

Juvenile caseload data reflect the use made of the various special procedures (often special courts) that have been established to handle cases involving persons defined as juveniles. Forty-five states provided information on juvenile caseloads in 1986, yielding a total of 708,598 case filings. Filing and disposition statistics, along with explanatory footnotes, for each court with juvenile subject matter jurisdiction can be found in Table 12 (p. 191).

JUVENILE FILINGS IN STATE TRIAL COURTS. Map 1.11 displays the rates per 100,000 juvenile population for each of the 45 states for which caseload information is

MAP 1.11: Juvenile Caseload per 100,000 Juvenile Population, 1986



See Table 12 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

available. Here, the denominator used to construct the rate is the number of residents age 17 or younger, because it is the most common definition of age of majority. Where a state's total is incomplete because one limited jurisdiction court did not report data, a dot is used to highlight the lack of comparability. (Indiana, Oregon, South Carolina, and Texas). States are left blank on the map when more than one limited jurisdiction court did not provide data or where no juvenile statistics were available (Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Utah). In most states, jurisdiction for juvenile cases rests with a trial court at the general jurisdiction level.

Juvenile filing rates per 100,000 juvenile population vary from 294 in Texas to 9,130 in the District of Columbia. Hawaii, New Jersey, and Virginia also had high 1986 juvenile filing rates. At the opposite end of the range, low filing rates were found in Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, Montana, New York, North Dakota, and Wyoming . Texas would be consistent with its surrounding states if all of its limited jurisdiction courts reported. Overall, the western part of the country has the most consistent filing rates where states range between 1,200 and 2,400, with the exception being the cluster of Montana, North Dakota, and Wyoming. There is no clear tendency for southern states to replicate their high criminal filing rates with high juvenile caseloads.

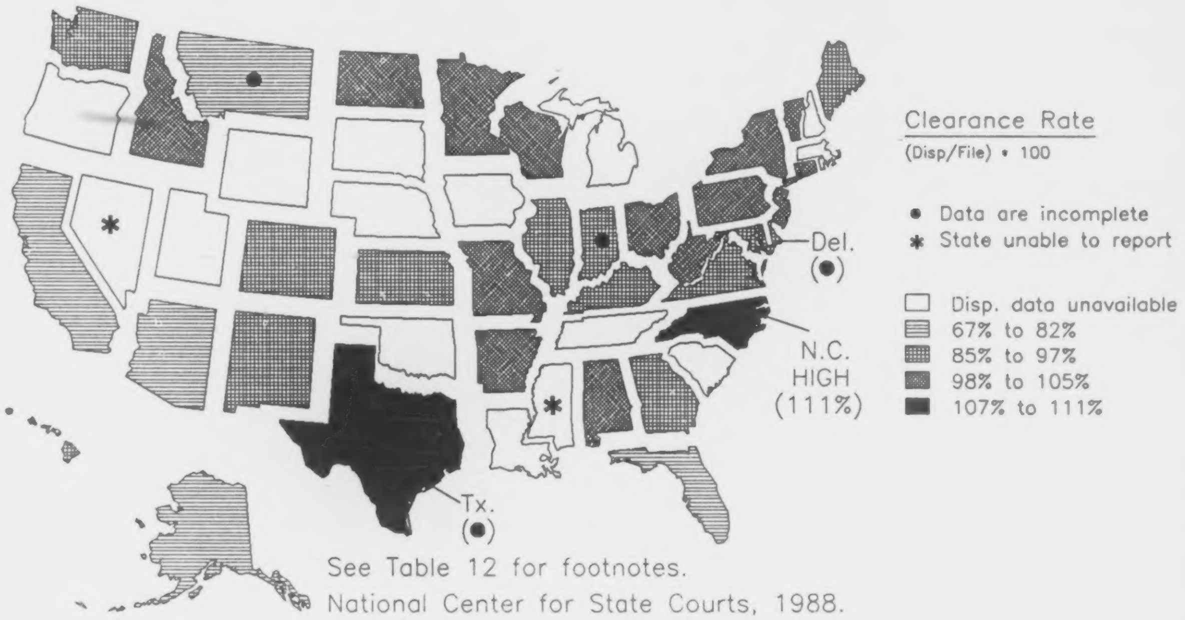
Most states use the age of 18 to define adulthood, usually with provision for treating juveniles charged with specific offenses as adults. The states with the highest juvenile filing rates per 100,000 population transfer defendants to adult courts at age 18. Louisiana is the exception. By contrast, some of the states with comparatively low levels of juvenile filings—Illinois, Michigan, and New York—draw the boundary at a lower age, and thus decrease the potential caseload of their juvenile courts relative to other states. Figure E (p. 221) provides background information on the jurisdiction of each state's juvenile courts and the idiosyncracies of how each tabulates its juvenile caseload. The definition of juvenile, the unit of count, and the point at which counting takes place clearly has an impact on the rates in Map 1.11. For example, the District of Columbia counts juvenile cases at the point of referral, an earlier stage in proceedings than in most of the states, and this contributes to its high caseload rate. This may also be a factor in the relatively high filing rate noted for Hawaii, another state that counts filings at the point of referral.

Juvenile filing rates do not appear to vary among the states in a manner that suggests regional or other patterns. As with criminal case filings, juvenile caseload statistics do not manifest clear relationships to the economic and social conditions that are usually associated with high levels of crime and social problems. Indeed, there is only a slight tendency for states with high rates of criminal filings to have high juvenile filing rates. Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire tend to be in the top categories for both types of case filings.

Differences in recordkeeping may serve to obscure whatever patterns do exist for juvenile filings. It is certainly likely that the relatively low filing rates, in states like Illinois, Michigan, and New York, are attributable, in part, to the use of a lower than typical age to transfer cases to the adult court.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR JUVENILE CASES. Clearance rates for juvenile cases are shown in Map 1.12, based

MAP 1.12: Juvenile Clearance Rates, 1986



See Table 12 for footnotes.
National Center for State Courts, 1988.

on information in Table 12. The map includes 35 states that report comparable filing and disposition data. For those states, clearance rates range from 67 percent in Florida to 111 percent in North Carolina. Texas also has a high clearance rate, as do a diverse group of states, including Alabama, Arkansas, Idaho, New York, and West Virginia. There is a tendency for states with low filing rates per 100,000 population to also be the ones with high clearance rates. The highest clearance rates are found in states such as New York and Texas, which had among the lowest filings per 100,000 juvinile population; conversely, those states with the highest filings per 100,000 population tend to have low clearance rates (e.g., the District of Columbia and Florida). When we move in from the extremes of the range, however, consistency is not evident. States such as Alaska, California, and New Mexico have moderate levels of juvenile filings but also are among those with the lowest clearance rates. The extent to which courts cleared their juvenile caseloads in 1986, therefore, was only slightly influenced by the volume of filings that the courts received in that year.

Conclusion

This report offers the most comprehensive review available of state court caseloads in 1986. Part I sought to document the differences that exist between states in their caseloads and to highlight some of the national patterns that emerge. It also sought to demonstrate the extent to which differences in state court caseloads are often attributable to differences in how filings and dispositions are categorized and counted. Appellate and trial court filing rates vary greatly between states in the same region or between states with broadly similar economic and population characteristics. This suggests that the caseload differences reported here reflect, in large measure, the diversity of ways in which states generate statistics on their court caseloads.

Part I should therefore be viewed as an example of how the report can be used. The caseload statistics reported in Part IV can be understood only in the context of the information on court organization and jurisdiction in Part III and the material in Part V describing how each state prepares its statistics. The text and maps in Part I indicate the factors to be considered when making comparisons between states or examining the national picture.

Part II of the report demonstrates other possible uses for caseload statistics. It examines trends in civil litigation over the 1981-1986 period by assembling information on case filings that is comparable across courts and over time.

Part II

Civil Litigation in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1986

Civil Litigation in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1986

Part II presents the evidence from caseload statistics on recent trends in the extent of civil litigation in the state courts. The central question is whether there has been an increase in the number of tort cases being filed. Torts are claims of injury or wrong. The main conclusion is that the general upward drift in tort filings found in the 1984-1985 data has continued and even accelerated during 1985-1986. Within an overall national picture of increasing civil and tort caseloads, however, the data continue to suggest state-by-state and year-to-year variations—a fact that renders national generalizations problematic.

Torts are the focus because they are the type of court case likely to consume the most court resources and also because they have been adopted as a key measure by both sides of the debate on whether the level of litigation in this country is rising. In addressing that question, changes in several categories of civil caseloads are examined in terms of their consistency across the United States and over the 1981-1986 period. The intent is to build a context in which the reader can gauge what is now occurring in tort litigation.

Trends in tort litigation have been the focus of the last two volumes (1984 and 1985) in the NCSC's caseload statistics annual report series (*Report*). The results strongly suggest the need to consider variation in trends between states, between levels of trial courts, and types of cases. The evidence is therefore provided in steps. Each step considers trends over the recent past and builds toward a foundation upon which to draw conclusions. However, Part II is primarily concerned with setting out the evidence available from state court caseload statistics and with pointing to explanations for changing caseloads based on factors such as changes in court jurisdiction, new legislation (e.g., caps on tort awards), or alterations to the method by which cases are counted.

The evidence from caseload statistics will be considered as follows. The first step is to compare the direction and degree of change in the rate of total civil case filings between 1984-1985 to that experienced between 1985-1986. The change in total civil filings provides a point of comparison through which the extent of change in the level of tort cases, one type of civil case, can be assessed. By presenting rates of caseload filings in a state per 100,000 population, Part II standardizes for differences in population size.

The second step is to examine the 1981-1986 change in the level of torts. Change recorded between 1985 and 1986 can thus be viewed in terms of its consistency with the preceding years. As before, the number of filings in each state is adjusted to allow for population differences. Trends in the rate of tort cases are calculated separately for cases involving automobiles and all other torts. This is relevant to the issue of change in the nature of tort litigation in this country, specifically the extent to which new sources of dispute are expanding the size of the civil caseload.

The third step in the presentation considers torts as a percentage of total civil filings in 1985 and 1986. This provides another basis for measuring the amount of change in tort litigation. A change in the percentage indicates whether torts are becoming a larger component of state court caseloads. It also provides another way to judge the amount of change in tort litigation. Rates per 100,000 population adjust for the number of people who are potential litigants in a state. But such rates do not allow for other factors, such as population density, age of the population, and economic conditions. A rise or fall in the percentage of civil cases formed by torts is an index of change in the extent of tort litigation.

A fourth step in the presentation is to offer a more refined standard to judge the size of changes to tort litigation. This takes the form of 1981-1986 trends in general civil case filings. General civil cases include real property rights and contract cases, in addition to torts. Examining trends in general civil cases allows us to draw conclusions on whether torts are increasing more sharply and more consistently than other major forms of civil cases.

Finally, trends in small claim cases are considered. They provide a further point of comparison by which to assess the change in tort litigation and in the general pattern by which Americans use their courts to resolve disputes.

Total Civil Filing Rates

Total civil data consist of all cases requesting the enforcement or protection of a right, or the redress or prevention of a wrong (*State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*). This casetype includes torts (auto, medical malpractice, other professional malpractice, product liability, and miscellaneous), contracts, real property rights, small claims, domestic relations (marriage dissolution, support/custody, URESA, adoptions, paternity and bastardy, and miscellaneous), mental health, estates, civil appeals, and miscellaneous civil cases.

Chart 1 (compiled from Table 2.1) presents total civil filing trends for general jurisdiction courts reporting complete data. Trends are measured as percentage changes in the number of cases filed per 100,000 population over a given period of time. Percentages for all charts have been rounded to whole numbers and are derived from source tables that may be found in the Appendix to this chapter.

Comparing the change between 1984-1985 to that between 1985-1986, it is evident that total civil filings per 100,000 population had a greater increase in more courts during 1985 than in 1986. Ten fewer courts reported an increase of three percent or more in total civil cases during 1986 than had done so in 1985, while eight more reported a decrease of three percent or more.

The direction of change in both years, however, was upward. Of the 12 courts that reported a decrease between 1985 and 1986, ten had experienced an increase of 3 percent or more in filings during 1985 (only the New York Supreme and County Courts and the Texas District Court did not). Over the 1984 to 1986 period, then, there was a clear tendency for the level of total civil filings to increase. More courts had some increase (44 of 55 in 1984-1985 and 37 of 55 in 1985-1986), rather than a decrease, in total civil filings on a year-to-year basis.

The data, therefore, suggest an upward shift in total civil filings. Of the 55 courts included in Chart 1, 14 reported a 3 percent or more increase in their filing rates for both 1984-1985 and 1985-1986. Not one court reported the reverse: a 3 percent or more decrease for both years. In addition, nearly one-half of the courts experienced an increase of 3 percent or more in their civil filing rate during 1985-1986, while only one-fifth had a decrease of that magnitude. In general, the total civil filing rate across the country increased slightly over the period, but fewer courts were reporting significant increases in 1985-1986 compared to 1984-1985.

Many of the inconsistencies in the direction of changes in filing rates have explanations that can be readily identified. For example, in the Alaska Superior Court, filings per 100,000 population increased 6 percent in 1985 but decreased 12 percent in 1986. This turnaround coincided with an increase in the jurisdictional limit on civil case filings in the limited jurisdiction district court from $10,000 ($15,000 for auto torts) to $25,000 in July 1985. Cases were filed in the district court in 1986 that would have been initiated in the superior court during 1985. Thus, the superior court experienced a large decrease in filings, while the district court had a significant increase (see Table 2.3).

Other explanations for variation in filing rates are identifiable for specific courts. The Colorado Water Court had a 57 percent increase in its filing rate during 1985, but a 31 percent decrease in 1986. This decrease can be attributed to an unusually high filing rate during the 1985 fiscal year when protests to an abandonment list were allowed.

In the Maine Superior Court, filings per 100,000 population increased by 5 percent in 1985 but decreased by nine percent in 1986. The 1985 filing rate appears to be a statistical anomaly, however, because filings have decreased every year in the superior court since 1980, except for 1985. Thus, whatever factors are causing the civil caseload to decrease in that court seem to be persisting.

In the Vermont Superior Court, the filing rate increased by 16 percent in 1985 but decreased by 3 percent in 1986. This directional change is perhaps explained by the fact that in 1985 reopened cases were added to the court's total civil filings by CSIM Project staff for the first time to make the figures comparable to other general jurisdiction or trial courts.

The Vermont District Court also experienced a large 25 percent filing rate increase during 1985, while it decreased slightly in 1986. The 1985 increase in the Vermont District Court was formed mainly by a 46 percent rise in the number of small claims filings, which coincided with an increase in the court's dollar limit jurisdiction from $500 in 1984 to $2,000 in 1985.

The Superior Court in the District of Columbia had a 6 percent filing rate increase during 1985, and a 2 percent decrease in 1986. A 42 percent rise in small claims filings accounts for the 6 percent increase in total civil filings. The growth in small claims filings coincided with an increase in the maximum dollar limit for small claims cases from $750 in 1984 to $2,000 in 1985.

A change in recordkeeping also explains the 18 percent filing rate increase recorded during 1986 in the Oregon Circuit Court. Most of the increase can be attributed to the increase of more than 12,000 domestic relations cases during the period. Not all domestic relations filings were recorded during previous years by Oregon clerks, but they were completely recorded in 1986. This new counting method largely accounts for the large increase in domestic relations filings and, consequently, in total civil filings.

Some of the swings in total civil filings do not have such clear explanations. For example, the filing rate increased 7 percent in the Illinois Circuit Court during 1985, while decreasing by 20 percent in 1986. Also, the Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas experienced a 24 percent increase in 1985, but a 3 percent decrease in 1986. Given the time and resources, it is probable that more of these filing variations could be explained with procedural and methodological reasons.

In summary, total civil filing rates for 1986 indicate that civil filings increased slightly for nearly one-half of the courts, but fewer courts were reporting significant increases (defined as 3 percent or more) in 1986 as compared to 1985. Civil filing rates increased when jurisdictional limits increased (e.g., Alaska), when protests were allowed (e.g., Colorado), when reopened cases were added to reported totals (e.g., Vermont Superior), or when new counting methods were employed (e.g., Oregon). Thus, in many instances, changes in civil caseloads were due to changes in procedures, jurisdiction levels, or counting methods.

Tort Filing Rates

All Torts

Torts are defined as those cases involving a court action resulting from an injury or wrong committed either against a person or against a person's property by a party who either did something that they were obligated not to do, or failed to do something that they were obligated to do (*State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*). Chart 2A presents available comparable tort data in general jurisdiction courts for 1984-1986 (Table 2.2 also provides 1981 data for five-year trend analysis).

Chart 2A indicates that there was a significant increase in tort filing rates during 1985-1986. Of the 26 courts

CHART 1: Total civil filing trends in general jurisdiction courts, 1984-1986

	1984-1985		1985-1986	
DOWN: Courts reporting a decrease in total civil filings of 3 percent or more	WYOMING District	-16%	COLORADO Water	-31%
	VIRGINIA Circuit	-5%	ILLINOIS Circuit	-20%
	CONNECTICUT Superior	-4%	WEST VIRGINIA Circuit	-13%
	DELAWARE Court of Chancery	-4%	ALASKA Superior	-12%
	(4 courts)		MAINE Superior	-9%
			TEXAS District	-9%
			KENTUCKY Circuit	-8%
			NEBRASKA District	-6%
			NEW YORK Supreme and County	-5%
			IOWA District	-3%
			PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	-3%
			VERMONT Superior	-3%
			(12 courts)	
NO CHANGE: Courts reporting essentially no change in total civil filings (i.e., a decrease or an increase no greater than 2 percent)	TEXAS District	-1%	VERMONT District	-2%
	PUERTO RICO Superior	-1%	WISCONSIN Circuit	-2%
	GEORGIA Superior	0%	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	-2%
	HAWAII Circuit	0%	HAWAII Circuit	-1%
	MICHIGAN Circuit	0%	NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior	-1%
	MICHIGAN Court of Claims	0%	IDAHO District	0%
	OHIO Court of Common Pleas	0%	ARIZONA Superior	1%
	MARYLAND Circuit	1%	GEORGIA Superior	1%
	NEW MEXICO District	1%	RHODE ISLAND Superior	1%
	NEW YORK Supreme and County	1%	TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery	1%
	UTAH District	1%	ALABAMA Circuit	2%
	CALIFORNIA Superior	2%	ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate	2%
	COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	2%	CALIFORNIA Superior	2%
	IDAHO District	2%	CONNECTICUT Superior	2%
	TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery	2%	FLORIDA Circuit	2%
	(15 courts)		NEW MEXICO District	2%
			OKLAHOMA District	2%
			(17 Courts)	
UP: Courts reporting an increase in total civil filings of 3 percent or more	ALABAMA Circuit	3%	DELAWARE Court of Chancery	3%
	KENTUCKY Circuit	3%	MICHIGAN Circuit	3%
	OKLAHOMA District	3%	MONTANA District	3%
	OREGON Circuit	3%	WYOMING District	3%
	SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit	3%	NEW JERSEY Superior	4%
	ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate	4%	NORTH CAROLINA Superior	4%
	MASSACHUSETTS Trial	4%	MARYLAND Circuit	5%
	NORTH DAKOTA District	4%	MASSACHUSETTS Trial	5%
	MAINE Superior	5%	MISSOURI Circuit	5%
	MINNESOTA District	5%	SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit	5%
	MISSOURI Circuit	5%	VIRGINIA Circuit	5%
	MONTANA District	5%	ARKANSAS Circuit	6%
	NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior	5%	LOUISIANA District	6%
	NEW JERSEY Superior	5%	DELAWARE Superior	7%
	NORTH CAROLINA Superior	5%	KANSAS District	7%
	ALASKA Superior	6%	NORTH DAKOTA District	7%
	FLORIDA Circuit	6%	INDIANA Superior and Circuit	9%
	KANSAS District	6%	UTAH District	9%
	RHODE ISLAND Superior	6%	PUERTO RICO Superior	9%
	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	6%	WASHINGTON Superior	10%
	ILLINOIS Circuit	7%	SOUTH CAROLINA Circuit	11%
	INDIANA Superior and Circuit	7%	OHIO Court of Common Pleas	12%
	LOUISIANA District	7%	MINNESOTA District	13%
	WASHINGTON Superior	7%	COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	16%
	DELAWARE Court of Chancery	8%	OREGON Circuit	18%
	ARIZONA Superior	9%	MICHIGAN Court of Claims	50%
	IOWA District	9%	(26 Courts)	
	NEBRASKA District	11%		
	WISCONSIN Circuit	11%		
	SOUTH CAROLINA Circuit	12%		
	ARKANSAS Circuit	16%		
	VERMONT Superior	16%		
	PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	24%		
	VERMONT District	25%		
	COLORADO Water	57%		
	(36 Courts)			
	Total Number of Courts (55)		Total Number of Courts (55)	

Source: TABLE 2.1

CHART 2A: Tort filing trends in general jurisdiction courts, 1984-1986

	1984-1985		1985-1986	
DOWN: Courts reporting a decrease in tort filings of 3 percent or more	UTAH District	-13%	NEW YORK Supreme and County	-10%
	MARYLAND Circuit	-8%	(1 Court)	
	NEW YORK Supreme and County	-6%		
	NORTH DAKOTA District	-6%		
	MASSACHUSETTS Trial	-5%		
	(5-Courts)			
NO CHANGE: Courts reporting essentially no change in tort filings (i.e., a decrease or an increase no greater than 2 percent)	MAINE Superior	-1%	MAINE Superior	-2%
	NEW JERSEY Superior	0%	MONTANA District	-1%
	KANSAS District	1%	TEXAS District	0%
	CONNECTICUT Superior	2%	(3 Courts)	
	(4 Courts)			
UP: Courts reporting an increase in tort filings of 3 percent or more	HAWAII Circuit	3%	ARKANSAS Circuit	3%
	MISSOURI Circuit	4%	HAWAII Circuit	4%
	COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	6%	MASSACHUSETTS Trial	4%
	TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery	6%	TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery	4%
	TEXAS District	7%	PUERTO RICO Superior	4%
	WASHINGTON Superior	7%	KANSAS District	5%
	FLORIDA Circuit	8%	ARIZONA Superior	6%
	PUERTO RICO Superior	11%	IDAHO District	6%
	ARIZONA Superior	12%	CONNECTICUT Superior	7%
	CALIFORNIA Superior	12%	NEW JERSEY Superior	7%
	MONTANA District	14%	ALASKA Superior	9%
	IDAHO District	16%	NORTH CAROLINA Superior	9%
	OHIO Court of Common Pleas	16%	MISSOURI Circuit	10%
	(13 Courts)		OHIO Court of Common Pleas	10%
			NORTH DAKOTA District	11%
			MICHIGAN Circuit	13%
			CALIFORNIA Superior	14%
			FLORIDA Circuit	16%
			MARYLAND Circuit	20%
			COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	34%
			WASHINGTON Superior	98%
			UTAH District	100%
			(22 Courts)	
	Total Number of Courts (22)		Total Number of Courts (26)	

Source: TABLE 2.2

reporting comparable data, 22 reported an increase in their tort filing rate of three percent or more. Only the New York Supreme and County Courts reported a significant decrease in their filing rate (3 percent or greater), while the Maine Superior Court, Montana District Court, and Texas District Court remained essentially unchanged.

Filing rates from limited jurisdiction courts reporting tort filing information during 1985-1986 (see Table 2.2) parallel the rates found in general jurisdiction courts. Four of the five courts reporting data experienced a significant increase in their tort filing rate: Alaska District (up 362 percent), Hawaii District (up 11 percent), Ohio Municipal (up 7 percent), and Texas County level (up 18 percent); the Ohio County Court's filing rate did not change during the period. An increase in the Alaska District Court's dollar amount jurisdiction was cited in the previous section of this chapter as being chiefly responsible for its extremely large growth in tort filings. Though only five limited jurisdiction courts reported tort information, the evidence suggests increases in tort filings per 100,000 population in 1986 occurred at both levels of state trial courts.

Chart 2B summarizes the pattern to filing rates during the full 1984-1986 period for general jurisdiction courts. The most common pattern in tort filing rates has been "Up-Up" (an increase in the filing rate in both 1984-1985 and 1985-1986), experienced by 11 of the 22 courts reporting data during the period.

If we examine the five-year period, 1981-1986, tort filings per capita increased (see Table 2.2). Of the 14 courts reporting comparable data over the 1981-1986 period, 12 of the 14 had a rise in their filing rate of 3 percent or more, and the average increase was 24 percent. Only two courts, the Kansas District and the New York Supreme and County Courts, had a lower tort filing rate per 100,000 population in 1986 as compared to 1981.

There are many reasons that may explain why the 1986 rise in tort filing rates was stronger than in total civil filings. More tort cases may be filed due to changing

CHART 2B: Tort filing patterns in general jurisdiction courts, 1984-1986

A. Courts reporting increases, 1985-1986:

Up (1984-1985) Up (1985-1986)

ARIZONA Superior Court
CALIFORNIA Superior Court
COLORADO District and Superior Courts
FLORIDA Circuit Court
HAWAII Circuit Court
IDAHO District Court
MISSOURI Circuit Court
OHIO Court of Common Pleas
PUERTO RICO Superior Court
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Courts
WASHINGTON Superior Court

No Change (1984-1985) Up (1985-1986)

CONNECTICUT Superior Court
KANSAS District Court
NEW JERSEY Superior Court

Down (1984-1985) Up (1985-1986)

MARYLAND Circuit Court
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court
NORTH DAKOTA District Court
UTAH District Court

B. Courts reporting no change or decreases, 1985-1986:

Up (1984-1985) No Change (1985-1986)

MONTANA District Court
TEXAS District Court

No Change (1984-1985) No Change (1985-1986)

MAINE Superior Court

Down (1984-1985) Down (1985-1986)

NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts

Source: TABLE 2.2

Up = An increase in filings of three percent or more.
No Change = An increase or a decrease in filings no greater than two percent.
Down = A decrease in filings of three percent or more.

economic conditions and demographics; more accidents, more lawyers, more lawyer advertising; or heightened awareness of the tort system as a remedy to injury or wrong. All of these may have contributed to some extent to the increase in tort filings in 1986.

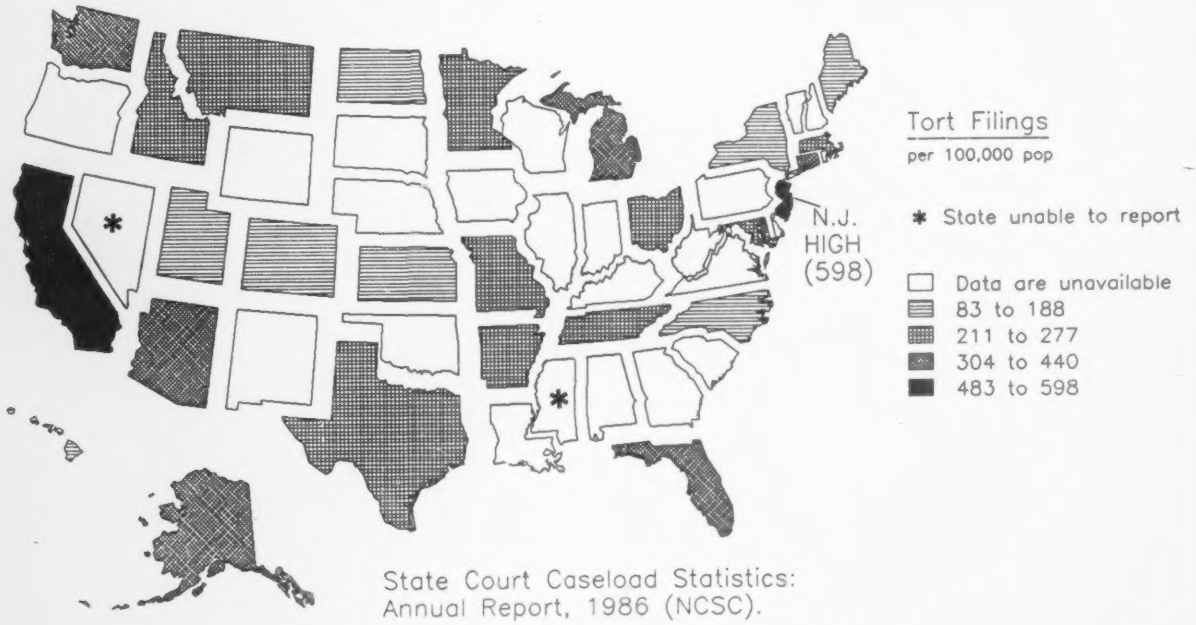
Another possible factor is that as the debate over the existence of a "litigation crisis" received national attention, especially from state legislatures, tort liability laws were passed in many states. The result may have been a "race to the courthouse" by litigants to avoid the limits imposed by the legislation before it went into effect. For example, in Washington State, legislation setting caps on award amounts was passed during 1986. Much of the 98 percent increase in the Washington Superior Court's tort filing rate during 1986 may have occurred as litigants tried to file their cases before the new law went into effect.

Utah may have undergone a similar experience. The Utah District Court's 100 percent tort filing rate increase followed passage of legislation which, among other things, capped noneconomic damages, modified the doctrine of joint and several liability, and required structured settlements for certain awards. In fact, tort reform legislation (e.g., caps on noneconomic awards) was enacted in all but two of the 22 general jurisdiction courts that reported tort filing rate increases between 1985 and 1986 (National Conference of State Legislatures, 1986).

Chart 2A also illustrates the year-to-year variation in filing rates that exists alongside the general upward drift. The Utah District Court is an extreme illustration of year-to-year fluctuation: during 1984-1985, it experienced the largest reported *decrease* (13 percent); however, the court also reported the largest *increase* (100 percent) during 1985-1986. The Maryland Circuit Court is another example of such inconsistency (from 8 percent down during 1984-1985 to 20 percent up during 1985-1986).

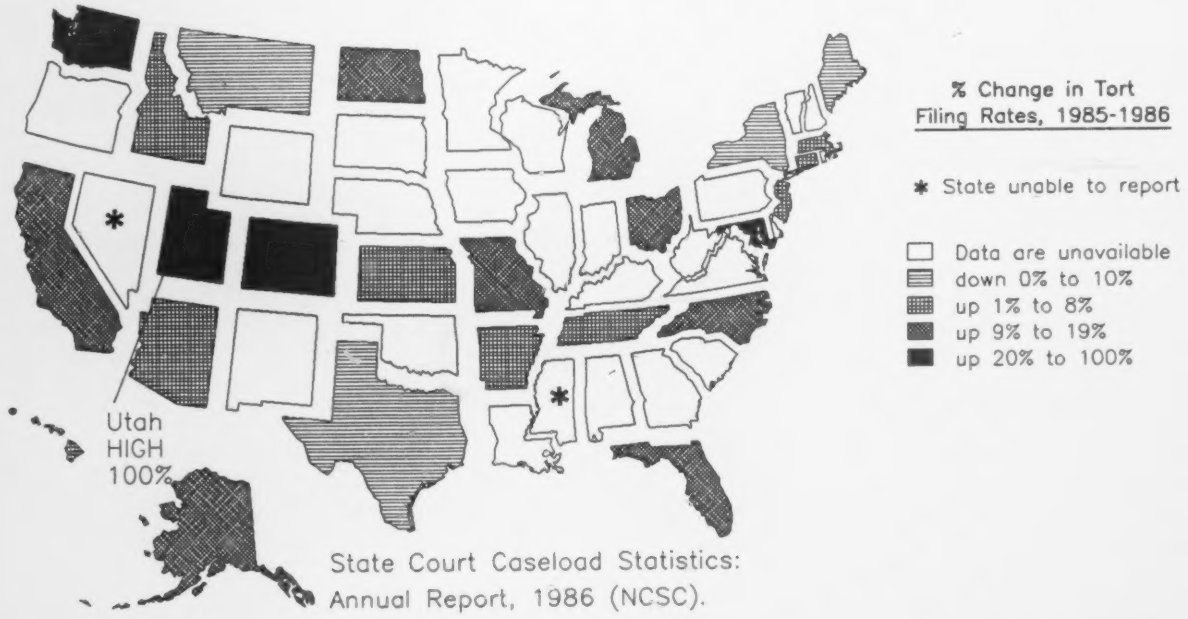
Map 2.1 plots the states that reported comparable data according to their tort filing rate for 1986. There does not appear to be regional or geographical patterns for filing

MAP 2.1: Tort Filing Rates in State General Jurisdiction Courts, 1986


N.J.
HIGH
(598)
Tort Filings
per 100,000 pop
✱ State unable to report
☐ Data are unavailable
▤ 83 to 188
▦ 211 to 277
▩ 304 to 440
■ 483 to 598

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1986 (NCSC).

MAP 2.2: Trends in Tort Filing Rates in State General Jurisdiction Courts, 1985-1986


Utah
HIGH
100%
% Change in Tort
Filing Rates, 1985-1986
✱ State unable to report
☐ Data are unavailable
▤ down 0% to 10%
▦ up 1% to 8%
▩ up 9% to 19%
■ up 20% to 100%

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1986 (NCSC).

CHART 3 : Differences in auto and nonauto tort filing rates, 1985-1986

Trend in auto tort filings per 100,000 population higher than trend in non-auto tort filings per 100,000 population, 1985-1986	CALIFORNIA Superior	29% higher
	NEW JERSEY Superior	19% higher
	MARYLAND Circuit	14% higher
	CONNECTICUT Superior	6% higher
	ARIZONA Superior	5% higher
	MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	2% higher
Trend in auto tort filings per 100,000 population lower than trend in non-auto tort filings per 100,000 population, 1985-1986.	NEW YORK Supreme and County ..	1% lower
	HAWAII Circuit	7% lower
	TEXAS District	9% lower
	MICHIGAN Circuit	19% lower

Source: TABLE 2.3

rates. This suggests that no one reason or even a set of reasons adequately explains the 1986 tort filing rate increases. Instead, a combination of factors, varying in their impact by state, probably explain the increases seen in Charts 2A and 2B.

Map 2.1 only plots 1986 tort filings rather than trends in the filing rate over a period of time. When the change in tort filing rates for 1985 and 1986 are mapped, some regional patterns do appear. Map 2.2 suggests that the upward trend in tort filings was most prominent in western states during this two-year period. Five of the nine general jurisdiction courts reporting data in the west reported an increase in their tort filing rate of 9 percent or more—Utah District (100 percent), Washington Superior (98 percent), Colorado District and Denver Superior (34 percent), California Superior (14 percent), and Alaska Superior (9 percent). In contrast, upward trends in tort filings were least common in the northeastern part of the country. None of the five northeastern courts reporting data reported an increase above 7 percent. The causes of these geographical patterns lie beyond the scope of this report.

In sum, more courts reported an increase in their tort filing rates in 1986 than in 1985. This contrasts with what was found for total civil filings. In 1986, 22 courts (13 in 1985) reported an increase of 3 percent or more, one court (five in 1985) reported a 3 percent or more decrease, while three other courts (four in 1985) fell between these two cutoff points. Whether the 1986 data are an anomaly or represent an upward trend in tort filing rates cannot be determined until caseload data for later years are available.

Auto Torts

Auto torts may be distinguished from other tort categories to better understand tort filing rates. The 1985 *Report* noted the claim that auto tort lawsuits are decreasing for a variety of reasons, while the number of nonauto torts (the alleged source of the litigation crisis problem) are significantly increasing. This would suggest that auto torts (the largest category of torts) mask large increases being recorded in nonauto torts. Chart 3 (derived from Table 2.3) examines the evidence for this assertion through a comparison of changes in auto and nonauto torts for ten general jurisdiction courts reporting comparable data during 1984-1986.

The data in Chart 3 suggest that rather than masking even larger increases in nonauto tort filings, auto torts may actually have had a greater impact on 1986 tort filing rate increases in Chart 2A than did nonauto torts. For the ten general jurisdiction courts reporting 1984-1985 and 1985-1986 changes, six experienced a larger increase in auto torts than nonauto; only three courts experienced a larger increase in nonauto torts; and the New York Supreme and County Courts had similar decreases in both areas. In these ten courts, then, an increase in auto tort filing rates had a greater effect on the rise in total tort filing rates than did nonauto tort filings.

Auto no-fault insurance laws may influence filing rates for auto torts. No-fault auto insurance laws specify that an accident victim is compensated up to a stipulated limit for actual losses, but not for noneconomic damages, by his own insurance company regardless of who is responsible for the accident. Under no-fault laws, each state sets a certain threshold of loss that must be reached before a tort is filed. Three states, Florida, Michigan, and New York, used a "verbal" threshold (one that describes the type of injury eligible for litigation), while the other states that have no-fault insurance use "dollar" value thresholds ranging from $200 to $5,600 (23 states and the District of Columbia have no-fault insurance).

The data in Chart 3 (and Table 2.3) suggest the possibility that verbal thresholds stabilize caseloads more than dollar thresholds. Also, in dollar threshold jurisdictions, the higher the threshold, the more likely are auto tort caseloads to remain steady. In California, a state without no-fault, auto tort filing rates increased 26 percent, compared to a 3 percent decline in nonauto tort filing rates (i.e. the increase in auto torts was 29 percent higher). In Maryland, where no-fault benefits are available in addition to, not as a substitute for, tort remedies, auto tort filings increased 25 percent as compared to a 9 percent increase in nonauto torts (i.e. the increase in auto torts was 14 percent higher). In New Jersey, with the lowest dollar threshold in the nation, auto torts increased 9 percent compared to a 10 percent decrease in nonauto torts (i.e. the increase in auto torts was 19 percent higher). In Hawaii, the state with the largest dollar threshold, auto torts remained static, compared to a 7 percent growth in nonauto torts (i.e. the change in auto torts was 7 percent lower).

By contrast, two of the three verbal threshold states, Michigan and New York, demonstrated the opposite trend. In Michigan, auto torts grew just 6 percent, compared to a 25 percent increase in nonauto torts (i.e. 19 percent lower); and in New York, auto torts declined by 10 percent, compared to a 9 percent decrease in nonauto torts (i.e. one percent lower). Comparable data for Florida were not available.

Generally, the evidence from 1985 and 1986 shows that auto tort filings were increasing more rapidly than nonauto torts. Also, variation in auto tort filing rates was often associated with the type of no-fault insurance system employed by a state.

Tort Summary

The aggregate statistics of Part II do not address the question of whether more cases with higher awards are being handled by the courts. For example, the Institute for Civil Justice at the RAND Corporation in *Trends in Tort Litigation: The Story Behind the Statistics* claims that there are three types of tort litigation: routine personal injury torts (i.e. auto torts), high-stakes personal injury suits (i.e. product liability and malpractice), and mass latent injury cases (i.e. suits arising from mass exposure to drugs, chemicals, or toxic substances). Thus, more litigation may be occurring in the last two types, which are likely to involve substantial awards, than in routine tort cases.

Court caseload filing rates also address only one dimension of civil litigation. The following list indicates other (some would argue more important) dimensions of the level of litigation:

- the total scope of disputing in society
- the outcomes of dispute resolution
- the impact of substantive law
- the behavior of third parties, such as lawyers and insurance companies
- the nature of disputes
- the resources available for dispute resolution
- the costs of resolving disputes.

Increases or decreases in filings (the incidence of formal litigation) are not reliable indexes of all or perhaps any of the above dimensions. Case filings, the subject of this report, are limited to numbers and types of civil cases filed, their frequency, and whether the frequency has changed over time.

Nevertheless, tort filing rates, one important dimension of civil litigation, significantly increased during 1986. A 3 percent or more increase was found in 22 of the 26 courts reporting tort filing data. During a five-year period, 1981-1986, the filing rate increased an average of 24 percent in the 12 courts that reported comparable and complete tort filing data. Tort filing trends continued to exhibit a strong upward pattern during 1986.

Tort Filing Rates as a Percentage of Total Civil

This section introduces a new basis for measuring trends in litigation. Tort filing rates are expressed as a percentage of total civil filing rates. Filings per 100,000 population as a standardization mechanism (i.e. to control for population) for tort filings may be criticized for oversimplifying the relationship between caseload and population. Instead, total civil filing rates may embody other extraneous factors (e.g., population density, age of the population, and economic conditions), which account for variation (increases) in tort filing rates. Torts as a percentage of total civil filings may, therefore, be a more meaningful index of changing tort caseloads. Since tort cases represent a small slice of the total civil caseload, an increase in torts as a percentage of total civil filings is likely to be significant.

Chart 4 summarizes the 1985-1986 change in tort filings as a percentage of total civil filings. The actual percentages for the two years can be found in the two far right columns of Table 2.4. Two points are significant. First, torts as a percentage of total civil caseloads went up in 16 of the 25 courts reporting comparable data for 1985 and 1986. Only two courts reported a decrease in tort filings as a percentage of total civil filings (the Arkansas Circuit and New York Supreme and County Courts each reported a 1 percent decrease), while the total civil caseload in six courts retained the same proportion of torts during the period. Given the fact that the tort caseload is such a small percent of total civil cases, these increases are significant.

Chart 4 indicates as well, however, that only three of the 16 courts reporting an increase in torts as a percentage of total civil filings had an increase of 3 percent or more during 1986. As part of the total civil caseload, then, tort filings did not increase to such an extent that they had a major impact on total civil filing rates. Tort filings generally increased only 1 or 2 percent of the total civil caseload. However, given that tort cases are more likely to go to trial than other civil cases (Sipes et al., 1988), even such increases may produce increased resource demands for courts, in general, and for judges handling civil trials, in particular.

The three courts that experienced a 3 percent or more increase in the proportion of tort filings are in Alaska, Utah, and Washington. Possible explanations for their large increases have already been discussed. In the Alaska Superior Court, tort filings increased from 11 percent to 14 percent of total civil filings during 1985-1986. This increase occurred because tort filings grew 3 percent while total civil filings decreased 12 percent (as noted above, many of the civil filings, which would normally have gone to the superior court, went to the limited jurisdiction district court because of its increased dollar amount jurisdiction). Therefore, the increase experienced by the superior court in tort filings (3 percent) had an abnormal impact on tort filings as a percent of total civil filings. As previously mentioned, Utah (an increase of 4 percent) and Washington (an increase of 6 percent) passed liability legislation, which may account for much of their large increases in tort filings.

An interesting side note concerns why civil caseloads in some general jurisdiction courts have an extremely high percentage of tort filings while other court caseloads have a low proportion of torts. Torts as a percentage of civil filings are very high when limited jurisdiction courts handle a large amount of the state's civil caseload. For example in Maine, where torts make up about 30 percent of the total civil caseload, limited jurisdiction courts have exclusive jurisdiction over adoptions, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate, and mental health casetypes. This significantly lessens the superior court's civil caseload so that

CHART 4 : Tort filings as a percent of total civil filings, 1985-1986

General jurisdiction courts:

DOWN: Courts reporting a one percent or more decrease in tort filings as a percent of total civil filings	ARKANSAS Circuit	-1%
	NEW YORK Supreme and County	-1%
	(2 Courts)	
NO CHANGE: Courts reporting no change in tort filings as a percent of total civil filings	KANSAS District	0%
	MONTANA District	0%
	NEW JERSEY Superior	0%
	NORTH DAKOTA District	0%
	OHIO Court of Common Pleas	0%
	TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Courts	0%
	PUERTO RICO Superior	0%
	(7 Courts)	
UP: Courts reporting a one percent or more increase in tort filings as a percent of total civil filings	ARIZONA Superior	1%
	COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	1%
	CONNECTICUT Superior	1%
	FLORIDA Circuit	1%
	HAWAII Circuit	1%
	IDAHO District	1%
	MISSOURI Circuit	1%
	NORTH CAROLINA Superior	1%
	TEXAS District	1%
	CALIFORNIA Superior	2%
	MAINE Superior	2%
	MARYLAND Circuit	2%
	MICHIGAN Circuit	2%
	ALASKA Superior	3%
	UTAH District	4%
	WASHINGTON Superior	6%
	(16 Courts)	
	Total Number of Courts (25)	

Source: TABLE 2.4

torts make up a larger percentage of its total civil cases filed. The same is true in New York, where the general jurisdiction supreme and county courts have even less jurisdiction over domestic relations cases. New York has seven limited jurisdiction courts that handle a large share of the state's civil caseload.

In short, tort filing rates increased as part of total civil filings in 16 of the 25 courts reporting data. Though the increase was small (2 percent or less) in all but three of these courts, the change is significant because torts are such a small percentage of the total civil caseload. Dollar amount jurisdiction change and tort reform legislation are plausible explanations for the increases in the three courts that reported an increase of 3 percent or more. The evidence from this section indicates that increases in tort filing rates exceeded the rises previously described for total civil filing rates.

General Civil Filing Rates

Tort, contract, and real property rights filings are combined as "general civil" cases in this section to give another picture of torts in the context of civil litigation trends. A contract case is a major classification category for civil cases that includes cases involving a dispute over a promissory agreement between two or more individuals or organizations; a real property rights case includes cases arising out of the ownership, use, or disposition of land or real estate (*State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*).

When comparing torts as a percentage of total civil filings, large increases in tort filing rates may be concealed because torts are so small a percentage of all civil cases (i.e. because small claims, domestic relations, estates, mental health cases, and civil appeals filings are included in total civil). General civil filings are used to present the clearest and most reliable basis for interpreting tort filing trends.

Chart 5A presents changes in filing rates for general civil cases (defined as torts, contracts, and real property rights) during 1984-1985 and 1985-1986 for both limited and general jurisdiction courts (Table 2.5 also provides 1981 data for five-year trend analysis). The data in Chart 5A indicate that general civil filing rates grew significantly during the 1985-1986 period. Fourteen of the 19 general jurisdiction courts reporting data had an increase of 3 percent or more, and 15 of the 25 limited jurisdiction courts had a similar increase during the period. By comparison, nine of the 13 general jurisdiction courts reported an increase of 3 percent or more during 1984-1985, but only seven of 18 limited jurisdiction courts reported the same trend. Also, just over half (seven) of the 12 general jurisdiction courts reporting complete and comparable data during 1981-1986 reported an increase of 3 percent or more, and less than half (seven) of the 17 limited jurisdic-

CHART 5A : General civil filings in state trial courts, 1984-1986

General jurisdiction courts:	1984-1985		1985-1986	
DOWN: Courts reporting a decrease in general civil filings of 3 percent or more	HAWAII Circuit	-7%	TEXAS District	-3%
	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	-4%	(1 Court)	
	(2 Courts)			
NO CHANGE: Courts reporting essentially no change in general civil filings (i.e., a decrease or an increase no greater than 2 percent	DELAWARE Superior	0%	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	-2%
	NORTH DAKOTA District	1%	UTAH District	-1%
	(2 Courts)		HAWAII Circuit	0%
			NORTH CAROLINA Superior	1%
			(4 Courts)	
UP: Courts reporting an increase in general civil filings of 3 percent or more	TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery	4%	ALABAMA Circuit	4%
	NORTH CAROLINA Superior	8%	TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery	4%
	ALABAMA Circuit	9%	MONTANA District	5%
	KANSAS District	9%	NORTH DAKOTA District	5%
	TEXAS District	9%	ARKANSAS Circuit	6%
	COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	10%	CONNECTICUT Superior	6%
	MONTANA District	10%	ARIZONA Superior	10%
	WASHINGTON Superior	10%	KANSAS District	11%
	ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate	18%	DELAWARE Superior	12%
	(9 Courts)		ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate	13%
			WASHINGTON Superior	21%
			MICHIGAN Circuit	22%
			COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	30%
			ALASKA Superior	68%
			(14 Courts)	
	Total Number of Courts (13)		Total Number of Courts (19)	

Limited jurisdiction courts:	1984-1985		1985-1986	
DOWN: Courts reporting a decrease in general civil filings of 3 percent or more	ALABAMA District	-15%	NORTH DAKOTA County	-12%
	NEW MEXICO Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	-15%	NEW MEXICO Magistrate	-10%
	NEW MEXICO Magistrate	-11%	OHIO County	-4%
	PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	-8%	(3 Courts)	
	NORTH CAROLINA District	-7%		
	KENTUCKY District	-6%		
	NEW HAMPSHIRE District	-5%		
	NEW YORK Civil Court of the City of New York	-3%		
	(8 Courts)			
NO CHANGE: Courts reporting essentially no change in general civil filings (i.e., a decrease or an increase no greater than 2 percent	MAINE District	-2%	MAINE District	-2%
	OHIO County	-2%	RHODE ISLAND District	-2%
	OHIO Municipal	2%	ALABAMA District	0%
	(3 Courts)		MICHIGAN Municipal	0%
			TEXAS Justice of the Peace	0%
			NORTH CAROLINA District	2%
			PENNSYLVANIA District Justice	2%
			(7 Courts)	
UP: Courts reporting an increase in general civil filings of 3 percent or more	HAWAII District	6%	HAWAII District	3%
	OREGON District	7%	NEW YORK Civil Court of the City of New York	3%
	PENNSYLVANIA District Justice	7%	OHIO Municipal	5%
	COLORADO County	8%	NEW MEXICO Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	7%
	RHODE ISLAND District	13%	NEW HAMPSHIRE District	9%
	INDIANA County	19%	INDIANA County	12%
	NEW YORK Court of Claims	22%	ARIZONA Justice of the Peace	13%
	(7 Courts)		KENTUCKY District	13%
			NEW YORK Court of Claims	15%
			OREGON District	16%
			UTAH Circuit	18%
			NEW YORK District and City	25%
			DELAWARE Court of Common Pleas	31%
			NEBRASKA County	33%
			COLORADO County	41%
			(15 Courts)	
	Total Number of Courts (18)		Total Number of Courts (25)	

Source: TABLE 2.5

CHART 5B : General civil filing patterns in general jurisdiction courts, 1984-1986

A. Courts reporting increases, 1985-1986:

Up (84-85) Up (85-86)

- ALABAMA Circuit Court
- ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate Courts
- COLORADO District Court
- KANSAS District Court
- MONTANA District Court
- TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Courts
- WASHINGTON Superior Court

No Change (84-85) Up (85-86)

- DELAWARE Superior Court
- NORTH DAKOTA District Court

B. Courts reporting no change or decreases, 1985-1986:

Up (84-85) No Change (85-86)

- NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court

Down (84-85) No Change (85-86)

- DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court
- HAWAII Circuit Court

Up (84-85) Down (85-86)

- TEXAS District Court

Source: TABLE 2.5

Up = An increase in filings of three percent or more.
No Change = An increase or a decrease in filings no greater than two percent.
Down = A decrease in filings of three percent or more.

tion courts during the period had an increase of 3 percent or more (see Table 2.5). Thus, the movement upward during 1985-1986 was generally greater in comparison to previous years.

Fifteen of the general jurisdiction courts in Chart 5A report tort cases separately from contract and real property rights cases. A review of these courts indicates that changes in tort filings for 1985-1986 (Chart 2A) generally parallel those found in general civil filing trends in Chart 5A. The increase in tort filings was significantly greater in only four of the 15 courts reporting combined tort, contract, and real property rights trends (North Carolina Superior, North Dakota District, Utah District, and Washington Superior). Tort filing trends in four other courts were significantly smaller than the combined tort, contract, and real property rights filing change (Alaska Superior, Kansas District, Michigan Circuit, and Montana District). Meanwhile, tort filings varied in a comparable manner to general civil cases in the seven remaining courts. Thus, it can be concluded that large increases for 1985-1986 are not solely attributable to increases in tort filings (with the exception of Washington and Utah, where tort reform appeared to have initiated large increases) because in only four of the 15 courts did the tort filing trend significantly exceed the overall trend in general civil filings.

The increase in 1986 filings, therefore, can be attributed to increased litigation in the general civil area—torts, contracts, and real property rights—and not just torts. As Chart 5B summarizes, there is an upward pattern in tort, contract, and real property rights filings during 1984-1985 and 1985-1986 in general jurisdiction courts. Seven of the 13 general jurisdiction courts during the 1984-1986 period experienced an "Up-Up" pattern in their general civil filing trends. The pattern in limited jurisdiction courts as shown in Table 2.5 was more mixed—only five of 18 courts experienced the "Up-Up" pattern. Nevertheless, the general upward trend during 1984-1986 is in sharp contrast to the 1981-1984 period when aggregate general civil filings went down 4 percent, while the population increased 3 percent (see the 1984 *Report*, Table 31).

In summary, tort, contract, and real property rights filing rates increased during both 1985 and 1986. However, the trend in 1986, with 29 of 44 general and limited jurisdiction courts reporting a per capita increase of 3 percent or more, was even greater than the growth found in 1985. Whether the 1986 data in Chart 5A are an anomaly or form part of a significant trend cannot be determined until caseload data from later years are analyzed. Also, other factors that affect filing rates must be considered: changes in the court's jurisdiction (e.g., dollar amount limitations), new legislation in the states (e.g., caps on tort liability), and alterations in the method of counting cases.

Small Claims Filing Rates

The small claims casetype includes cases governed by special summary procedures specified by statute, involving either tort, contract, or real property rights claims in

CHART 6 : Small claims filing trends in state trial courts, 1984-1986

General jurisdiction courts:	1984-1985	1985-1986
DOWN: Courts reporting a decrease in small claims filings of 3 percent or more	CONNECTICUT Superior .... -10% (1 Court)	ILLINOIS Circuit .... -14% IOWA District .... -6% (2 Courts)
NO CHANGE: Courts reporting essentially no change in small claims filings (i.e., a decrease or an increase no greater than 2 percent)	ILLINOIS Circuit .... -1% NEW JERSEY Superior .... -1% KANSAS District .... 1% MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth .... 2% OKLAHOMA District .... 2% (5 courts)	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior .... -2% NEW JERSEY Superior .... -2% CONNECTICUT Superior .... 1% MINNESOTA District .... 2% OKLAHOMA District .... 2% WISCONSIN Circuit .... 2% (6 courts)
UP: Courts reporting an increase in small claims filings of 3 percent or more	MISSOURI Circuit .... 3% SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit .... 3% IOWA District .... 4% WISCONSIN Circuit .... 8% INDIANA Superior and Circuit ... 12% IDAHO District .... 18% DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior .. 42% (7 courts)	IDAHO District .... 4% KANSAS District .... 4% MISSOURI Circuit .... 5% SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit .... 9% MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth .... 10% INDIANA Superior and Circuit . 50% (6 courts)
	Total Number of Courts (13)	Total Number of Courts (14)
Limited jurisdiction courts:		
DOWN: Courts reporting a decrease in small claims filings of 3 percent or more	NEW HAMPSHIRE Municipal .... -34% ARIZONA Justice of the Peace Court -6% CALIFORNIA Justice .... -5% NEW HAMPSHIRE District .... -5% HAWAII District .... -3% (5 courts)	INDIANA County .... -15% UTAH Justice of the Peace .... -11% CALIFORNIA Justice .... -10% NORTH DAKOTA County .... -7% OHIO County .... -5% NEBRASKA County .... -4% TEXAS Justice of the Peace ... -3% (7 courts)
NO CHANGE: Courts reporting essentially no change in small claims filings (i.e., a decrease or an increase no greater than 2 percent)	CALIFORNIA Municipal .... -1% RHODE ISLAND District .... -1% COLORADO County .... 0% KENTUCKY District .... 1% NEBRASKA County .... 2% OREGON District .... 2% (6 courts)	ARIZONA Justice of the Peace . -1% KENTUCKY District .... -1% VERMONT District .... -1% MICHIGAN Municipal .... 0% NEW YORK District and City ... 0% CALIFORNIA Municipal .... 1% NEW HAMPSHIRE District .... 1% FLORIDA County .... 2% NEW YORK Civil Court of New York City .... 2% UTAH Circuit .... 2% (10 courts)
UP: Courts reporting an increase in small claims filings of 3 percent or more	OHIO Municipal .... 3% NORTH CAROLINA District .... 4% NORTH DAKOTA County .... 4% WASHINGTON District .... 5% NEW YORK District and County .. 6% INDIANA Small Claims Court of Marion County .... 7% OHIO County .... 7% INDIANA County .... 8% MAINE District .... 9% NEW YORK Civil Court of New York City .... 9% MICHIGAN District .... 10% ALABAMA District .... 22% FLORIDA County .... 23% ALASKA District .... 28% PENNSYLVANIA Philadelphia Municipal .... 38% VERMONT District .... 46% (16 courts)	ALASKA District .... 3% OHIO Municipal .... 3% INDIANA Small Claims Court of Marion County .... 4% HAWAII District .... 5% RHODE ISLAND District .... 5% WASHINGTON District .... 5% MAINE District .... 8% NORTH CAROLINA District ...... 9% NEW HAMPSHIRE Municipal ...... 11% OREGON District .... 11% PENNSYLVANIA Philadelphia Municipal .... 11% MICHIGAN District .... 20% ALABAMA District .... 21% COLORADO County .... 30% (14 courts)
	Total Number of Courts (27)	Total Number of Courts (31)

Source: TABLE 2.6

which the remedy sought is a specific, limited amount of monetary damages (*State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*). Chart 6 (compiled from Table 2.6) lists small claims filing trends for both limited and general jurisdiction courts reporting comparable data for the 1984-1986 period.

Chart 6 illustrates that during 1984-1986, a general upward pattern appears where more courts were reporting increases in their small claims filing rates rather than decreases. In general jurisdiction courts, seven of the 13 courts reporting data in 1984-1985 had an increase of 3 percent or more, and only the Connecticut Superior Court reported a significant decrease (10 percent). Ten of these 13 courts reported some increase in their filing rate (i.e. 1 percent or more). Similarly, six of the 14 general jurisdiction courts reporting data in 1985-1986 experienced an increase of 3 percent or more, and only the Illinois Circuit and Iowa District Courts reported decreases greater than 2 percent in their filing rates. Ten of these 14 courts had some increase in their small claims filing rates. In general, the change for small claims filing rates in general jurisdiction courts during 1985-1986 continued the upward shift seen during 1984-1985.

A similar upward movement is observed for limited jurisdiction courts. During 1984-1985, 16 of 27 limited jurisdiction courts reported an increase of 3 percent or more, and 19 of these 27 had at least a 1 percent increase in their filing rate. During 1985-1986, 14 of 31 courts had an increase of 3 percent or more (ten courts reported essentially no change), and 19 of these 31 had some growth. Again, a general upward trend in small claims filing rates for 1985-1986 continued the movement observed for 1984-1985.

Many of the courts that experienced increases in their small claims filing rate (especially large increases) also had a recent increase in their dollar amount jurisdiction (i.e. they could hear small claims cases involving larger dollar amounts). Increases in dollar amount jurisdiction appear to be the most plausible explanations for rising small claims filing rates.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1985 found that increases in small claims filings during 1985 were largely attributable to changes in dollar amount jurisdiction. This conclusion was based upon the fact that in those courts where the dollar amount jurisdiction did not change, the aggregate small claims filing rate rose only 1 percent. The small claims filing rate increased by 17 percent in the 12 states that reported dollar amount jurisdiction increases for 1985.

The 1986 small claims data in Chart 6 present a similar picture of small claims filing levels in relation to dollar amount jurisdiction changes. Of the 20 limited and general jurisdiction courts in Chart 6 that experienced an increase of 3 percent or more in their small claims filing rate during 1986, 15 had an increase in their dollar amount jurisdiction during 1985 or 1986 (see Table 2.6 for dollar limit jurisdiction amounts). In contrast, of the 25 courts that had a decrease in their filing rate or no significant change during 1986, only 11 experienced a dollar amount jurisdiction increase. In other words, a recent increase in the dollar amount jurisdiction is usually, but not invariably, associated with an increased filing rate.

A dollar amount jurisdiction increase is likely to have occurred for courts reporting a very large growth in their filing rate. For example, 17 general and limited jurisdiction courts in Chart 6 had an increase in their small claims filing rate of 10 percent or more during either 1984-1985 or 1985-1986. Of these 17, only two courts (Idaho District and New Hampshire Municipal) did not have an increase in their dollar amount jurisdiction during 1985 and 1986.

Map 2.3 illustrates that the highest small claims filing rates were in the District of Columbia, Indiana, North Carolina, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. Contributing to its high 1986 filing rate, the District of Columbia experienced a 42 percent increase in small claims filings during 1985. This increase coincided with a rise in its dollar amount jurisdiction from $750 to $2,000. Indiana's high filing rate is apparently related to its high dollar limit jurisdiction of $3,000, the second highest amount reported in Table 2.6. Thus, increased or high dollar limit jurisdictions can have a large impact on a state's small claims filing rate.

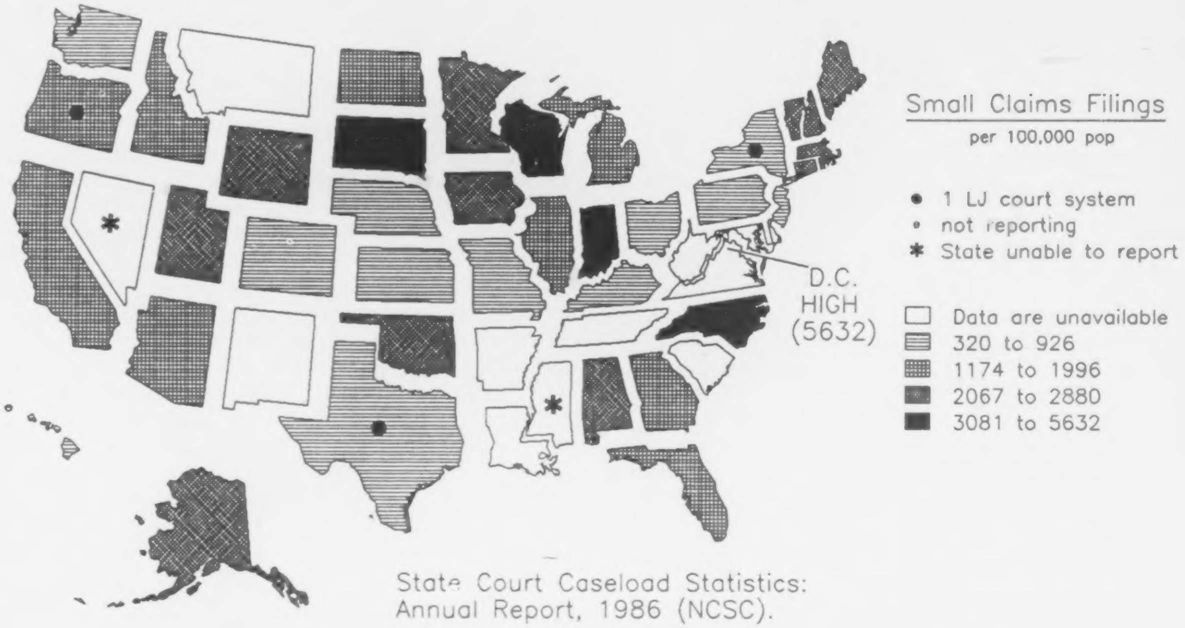
Finally, there appear to be two major clusters of high small claims filing rates in Map 2.3. First, a geographic cluster of western and midwestern states—Indiana, Iowa, Minnesota, South Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming—report high rates. Second, there is a cluster of high small claims filing rates in the northeastern part of the country. These high filing rates in the northeast are in contrast to low tort filing rates and stable trends for tort filings rates found in Maps 2.1 and 2.2. A variety of other factors besides a court's dollar amount jurisdiction may explain high small claims rates and large variation in the rates of small claims filings for the country as a whole: different small claims procedures (e.g., the use of attorneys); filing fees; accessibility of courthouses; convenience of hours; general public awareness of the availability of small claims procedures; types of cases that can be heard in small claims courts; and local legal/political cultures.

In summary, rising 1986 small claims filing rates indicate an association between increases in the filing rate and increases in a court's jurisdiction to hear cases of higher dollar amounts. During 1985-1986, ten of 14 general jurisdiction courts and 19 of 31 limited jurisdiction courts had an increase in their small claims filing rate. In 15 of the 20 courts that reported an increase in their small claims filing rate of 3 percent or more during 1986, the increase paralleled an increase in the court's dollar amount jurisdiction.

Conclusion

According to the caseload statistics presented in Part II, more civil cases per capita were filed during 1986 than in previous years. The growth in filings was especially prominent in the areas of tort, contract, and real property rights cases. Overall, a majority of courts were reporting increases in their total civil filing rates during 1986, though there were fewer courts reporting significant increases in 1986 than in 1985. Tort filing rates increased significantly in most states reporting complete and comparable data during 1986, and that growth often paralleled tort reform legislation. For the years 1985 and 1986, upward trends in tort filing rates appeared most commonly in the west. Torts consistently increased 1 or 2 percent as part of total civil caseloads. General civil filing rates increased to an even greater extent in 1986 than the significant growth found in

MAP 2.3: Small Claims Filing Rates in State Trial Courts, 1986



State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1986 (NCSC).

1985. Also, upward and stable small claims filing rates paralleled changes in dollar amount jurisdiction.

Though the data in Part II indicate a general growth in civil litigation, as measured by civil filing rates, national generalizations are problematic because the data continue to suggest state-by-state and year-to-year variations. There are many factors that may account for the growth. Among the most prominent identifiable explanations for an increase in civil filing rates are a change in the court's jurisdiction (e.g., dollar amount limitations), changes in substantive law (e.g., caps on tort liability), and alterations in the method of counting cases.

Part II has demonstrated that filing rates increase when dollar amount jurisdictions are expanded. As evidenced by the section on small claims, when dollar amount limitations rise, so does the level of filing. This suggests that there may be an increase in litigation because higher awards are available or because more cases deal with higher award amounts. Other factors may explain the increase in civil litigation found in Part II, but lie beyond the evidence presented. For example, American society may be becoming more prone to litigate.

In summary, using the most complete and comparable available data (i.e. aggregate civil and tort filings) to address the question of whether the rate of civil litigation in state trial courts is increasing, it must be concluded that significant increases (defined here as 3 percent or more) in civil filing rates occurred in a majority of courts during 1985-1986. Despite state-by-state and year-to-year variation, tort and general civil filing increases were especially prominent during the period. Future caseload data, however, will be needed to determine whether the upward trend in filings continues or is a short-term trend.

References

AMERICAN INSURANCE ASSOCIATION and NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES (1986). "A Scorecard of Liability-Related Laws Enacted in 1986," September *Insurance Review* 14.

HENSLER, Deborah R., et al. (1987). *Trends in Tort Litigation: The Story Behind the Statistics*. Santa Monica, CA: The RAND Corporation, Institute for Civil Justice.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS (1980). *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS (1986). *State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1984*. Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS (1987). *State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1985*. Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts.

SIPES, Dale A., et al. (1988). *On Trial: The Length of Civil and Criminal Trials*. Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts.

Appendix

Part II

TABLE 2.1: Total Civil Filings in General Jurisdiction Courts, 1984-1986

State/Court name:	1984			1985		
	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population
ALABAMA Circuit Court	76,009	D	1,905	79,248	D	1,971
ALASKA Superior Court	16,630	D	3,326	18,315	D	3,515
ARIZONA Superior Court	85,355	J	2,796	97,262	J	3,052
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	28,879		1,229	33,637		1,426
ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate Courts	49,416	B	2,104	51,612	B	2,188
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	598,330	B	2,335	626,496	B	2,376
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	86,930		2,735	89,995		2,785
COLORADO Water Court	1,688		53	2,680		83
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	155,681	D	4,936	150,323	D	4,736
DELAWARE Court of Chancery	2,882		470	3,155		507
DELAWARE Superior Court	3,825		624	3,745		602
FLORIDA Circuit Court	383,516		3,494	421,694		3,710
GEORGIA Superior Court	132,703	D	2,273	136,138	D	2,278
HAWAII Circuit Court	25,916	D	2,494	26,283	D	2,494
IDAHO District Court	59,117	B	5,906	60,347	B	6,005
ILLINOIS Circuit Court	661,199	D	5,744	709,374	D	6,150
INDIANA Superior and Circuit Courts	190,563	1	3,466	203,207	1	3,695
IOWA District Court	146,080	J	5,020	157,564	D	5,463
KANSAS District Court	117,888	B	4,835	124,995	B	5,102
KENTUCKY Circuit Court	65,629	D	1,763	67,438	D	1,810
LOUISIANA District Court	164,207	D	3,680	175,972	D	3,927
MAINE Superior Court	6,775	B	586	7,199	B	618
MARYLAND Circuit Court	97,674		2,246	99,842		2,273
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	433,606		7,479	451,972		7,763
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	149,713	1	1,650	149,316		1,643
MICHIGAN Court of Claims	539		6	516		6
MINNESOTA District Court	194,038	D	4,662	205,241	D	4,895
MISSOURI Circuit Court	213,533	P	4,264	224,651	P	4,467
MONTANA District Court	26,346	B	3,197	27,648	D	3,347
NEBRASKA District Court	35,519	J	2,212	39,323	J	2,449
NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior Court	16,622	B	1,701	17,861	B	1,790
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	566,791	J	7,542	597,399	J	7,900
NEW MEXICO District Court	50,271	D	3,530	51,532	D	3,554
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	126,717	O	707	126,776	O	713
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	82,604		1,340	87,670		1,402
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	13,734	B	2,002	14,239	B	2,079
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	290,980		2,706	290,520	E	2,704
OKLAHOMA District Court	214,644	B	6,508	220,914	B	6,692
OREGON Circuit Court	64,487	D	2,412	67,014	D	2,494
PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	219,992	1	1,849	270,881	1	2,285
RHODE ISLAND Superior Court	7,239	E	753	7,732	E	799
SOUTH CAROLINA Circuit Court	41,835	C	1,268	47,466	C	1,418
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit Court	38,910		5,511	40,316		5,694
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Courts	101,543	D	2,153	104,430	D	2,193
TEXAS District Court	443,159	D	2,772	451,035	D	2,755
UTAH District Court	29,760	C	1,801	30,009	C	1,824
VERMONT Superior Court	8,233	B	1,553	9,634	B	1,801
VERMONT District Court	15,226		2,873	19,227		3,594
VIRGINIA Circuit Court	82,514	B	1,464	79,678	B	1,396
WASHINGTON Superior Court	113,150	D	2,602	122,505	D	2,779
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit Court	45,912	B	2,352	47,501	B	2,454
WISCONSIN Circuit Court	314,612	D	6,601	350,227	D	7,335
WYOMING District Court	11,278	P	2,207	9,429	D	1,852
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	140,261	B	22,514	148,859	B	23,779
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	63,181	1	1,934	62,393	O	1,910

State/Court name:	1986			Percent change in filings per 100,000 population 1984-1985	Percent change in filings per 100,000 population 1985-1986
	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population		
ALABAMA Circuit Court	81,262	D	2,005	3%	2%
ALASKA Superior Court	16,506	D	3,097	6%	-12%
ARIZONA Superior Court	102,140	B	3,077	9%	1%
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	35,784		1,509	16%	6%
ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate Courts	53,016	B	2,235	4%	2%
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	654,283	B	2,425	2%	2%
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	105,688		3,235	2%	16%
COLORADO Water Court	1,870		57	57%	-31%
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	154,581	D	4,847	-4%	2%
DELAWARE Court of Chancery	3,309		523	8%	3%
DELAWARE Superior Court	4,067		643	-4%	7%
FLORIDA Circuit Court	442,809		3,793	6%	2%
GEORGIA Superior Court	140,803	D	2,307	0%	1%
HAWAII Circuit Court	26,171	D	2,462	0%	-1%
IDAHO District Court	60,121	B	6,000	2%	0%
ILLINOIS Circuit Court	569,152	D	4,926	7%	-20%
INDIANA Superior and Circuit Courts	221,975	1	4,034	7%	9%
IOWA District Court	150,849	D	5,293	9%	-3%
KANSAS District Court	134,131	B	5,452	6%	7%
KENTUCKY Circuit Court	62,212	D	1,668	3%	-8%
LOUISIANA District Court	187,145	D	4,157	7%	6%
MAINE Superior Court	6,622	B	565	5%	-9%
MARYLAND Circuit Court	106,716		2,391	1%	5%
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	476,684		8,174	4%	5%
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	154,327		1,688	0%	3%
MICHIGAN Court of Claims	814		9	0%	50%
MINNESOTA District Court	233,927	B	5,551	5%	13%
MISSOURI Circuit Court	237,782	P	4,694	5%	5%
MONTANA District Court	28,212	D	3,445	5%	3%
NEBRASKA District Court	36,805	J	2,305	11%	-6%
NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior Court	18,208	B	1,773	5%	-1%
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	624,828	J	8,200	5%	4%
NEW MEXICO District Court	53,424	D	3,612	1%	2%
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	120,038	O	675	1%	-5%
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	92,031		1,453	5%	4%
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	15,085	B	2,222	4%	7%
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	324,779	E	3,020	0%	12%
OKLAHOMA District Court	226,467	B	6,852	3%	2%
OREGON Circuit Court	79,268	D	2,938	3%	18%
PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	264,305	1	2,223	24%	-3%
RHODE ISLAND Superior Court	7,867	E	807	6%	1%
SOUTH CAROLINA Circuit Court	52,895	C	1,567	12%	11%
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit Court	42,510		6,004	3%	5%
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Courts	106,890	D	2,225	2%	1%
TEXAS District Court	419,434	D	2,514	-1%	-9%
UTAH District Court	33,042	C	1,985	1%	9%
VERMONT Superior Court	9,489	D	1,754	16%	-3%
VERMONT District Court	19,007		3,513	25%	-2%
VIRGINIA Circuit Court	84,408	B	1,459	-5%	5%
WASHINGTON Superior Court	135,933	D	3,046	7%	10%
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit Court	41,107	B	2,142	4%	-13%
WISCONSIN Circuit Court	343,755	D	7,184	11%	-2%
WYOMING District Court	9,694	D	1,912	-16%	3%
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	145,263	B	23,242	6%	-2%
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	68,295	O	2,090	-1%	9%

(continued on next page)

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

B: The following courts' data are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
Arizona--Superior Court (1986)
Arkansas--Chancery and Probate Court
California--Superior Court
District of Columbia--Superior Court
Idaho--District Court
Kansas--District Court
Maine--Superior Court
Minnesota--District Court (1986)
Montana--District Court (1984)
New Hampshire--Superior Court
North Dakota--District Court
Oklahoma--District Court
South Carolina--Family Court
Vermont--Superior Court (1984 & 1985)
Virginia--Circuit Court
West Virginia--Circuit Court

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
South Carolina--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include criminal appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings.
Utah--District Court--Total civil filings include some postconviction remedy proceedings.

D: The following courts' data are overinclusive and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
Alabama--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Alaska--Superior Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Connecticut--Superior Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Georgia--Superior Court--Total civil filings include probation revocation hearings, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include criminal postconviction remedy proceedings and some criminal and traffic/other violation cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Illinois--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include miscellaneous criminal cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Iowa--District Court--Total civil filings for 1985 and 1986 include postconviction remedy proceeedings and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Kentucky--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, but are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Louisiana--District Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, but are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Minnesota--District Court--Total civil filings for 1984 include criminal appeals cases and for both 1984 and 1985 include cases from the County Court, Conciliation and Probate Division and County Municipal Court which merged with the District Court in 1985. The figures were merged for 1984 to allow for comparability between years.
Montana--District Court--Total civil filings for 1985 and 1986 include appeals of trial court cases and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
New Mexico--District Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Oregon--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include criminal appeals cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings and miscellaneous criminal cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Texas--District Court--Total civil filings include some juvenile cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Vermont--Superior Court--Total civil filings for 1986 include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Washington--Superior Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include criminal appeals cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Wyoming--District Court--Total civil filings for 1985 and 1986 include criminal appeals cases and postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

E: The following courts' data include postconviction remedy proceedings:
  Ohio--Court of Common Pleas (1985 & 1986)
  Rhode Island--Superior Court

I: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
  Indiana--Superior and Circuit Court--Total civil filings do not include mental health cases and a few civil cases which are reported as "redocketed civil."
  Michigan--Circuit Court--Total civil filings for 1984 do not include data from four small counties.
  Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Total civil filings do not include some unclassified civil cases.
  Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total civil filings for 1984 do not include estate cases.

J: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
  Arizona--Superior Court--Total civil filings do not include mental health cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Iowa--District Court--Total civil filings for 1984 do not include mental health cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Nebraska--District Court--Total civil filings do not include civil appeals, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  New Jersey--Superior Court--Total civil filings do not include a few domestic relations cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

O: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are overinclusive:
  New York--Supreme and County Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, and only those cases that are counted at the trial note of issue, but do not include civil appeals cases.
  Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total civil filings for 1985 and 1986 include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include estate cases which are unavailable.

P: The following courts' data are 75% complete, overinclusive, and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
  Missouri--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some domestic relations cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Wyoming--District Court--Total civil filings for 1984 include criminal appeals and juvenile cases and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases. Data do not include cases for a 6-month period from one county.

TABLE 2.2: Tort Filings in State Trial Courts, 1981-1986 and 1985-1986

State/Court name:	1981		1984		1985	
	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA Superior Court	nc	--	nc	--	2,096	402
ARIZONA Superior Court	N/A	--	9,173	300	10,748	337
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	N/A	--	N/A	--	5,382	228
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	80,970	335	97,068	379	112,049	425
COLORADO District and Denver Superior Courts	5,089	172	4,199	132	4,537	140
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	11,471	366	12,391	393	12,742	401
FLORIDA Circuit Court	nc	--	26,815 1	244	29,864 1	263
HAWAII Circuit Court	1,468 1	150	1,611 1	155	1,676 1	159
IDAHO District Court	1,744 1	182	1,729 1	173	2,010 1	200
KANSAS District Court	4,517	190	4,033	165	4,061	166
MAINE Superior Court	1,914	169	2,083	180	2,072	178
MARYLAND Circuit Court	nc	--	10,826 1	249	10,120 1	230
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	N/A	--	15,151	261	14,405	247
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	N/A	--	23,186 nc	255	23,742	261
MISSOURI Circuit Court	N/A	--	9,259 1	185	9,678 1	192
MONTANA District Court	nc	--	1,640 C	199	1,870 C	226
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	41,376 1	558	41,722 1	555	42,141 1	557
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	39,234 1	223	37,847 1	213	35,549 1	200
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	N/A	--	N/A	--	8,062 C	129
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	516	78	550	80	512	75
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	21,906	203	22,149	206	25,518	238
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	12,046	261	11,775	250	12,565	264
TEXAS District Court	28,698	194	34,224	214	37,596	230
UTAH District Court	nc	--	1,433 C	87	1,245 C	76
WASHINGTON Superior Court	7,919	188	8,997	207	9,747	221
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	3,760	118	3,968 C	121	4,388 C	134
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA District Court	nc	--	nc	--	860 1	165
HAWAII District Court	1,037	106	693	67	652	62
OHIO County Court	705	7	519	5	464	4
OHIO Municipal Court	18,992	176	13,503	126	12,992	121
TEXAS County-level Courts	nc	--	nc	--	8,242	50

State/Court name:	1986 Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	1986 Filings per 100,000 population	Percent change in filings per 100,000 population 1981-1986	Percent change in filings per 100,000 population 1985-1986
General jurisdiction courts:				
ALASKA Superior Court	2,344	440	--	9%
ARIZONA Superior Court	11,888	358	--	6%
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	5,541	234	--	3%
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	130,206	483	44%	14%
COLORADO District and Denver Superior Court	6,145	188	9%	34%
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	13,754	431	18%	7%
FLORIDA Circuit Court	35,535	304	--	16%
HAWAII Circuit Court	1,749 1	165	10%	4%
IDAHO District Court	2,118 1	211	6%	6%
KANSAS District Court	4,274	174	-8%	5%
MAINE Superior Court	2,044	174	3%	-2%
MARYLAND Circuit Court	12,373 1	277	--	20%
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	15,040	258	--	4%
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	27,046	296	--	13%
MISSOURI Circuit Court	10,746 1	212	--	10%
MONTANA District Court	1,836 C	224	--	-1%
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	45,547 1	598	7%	7%
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	32,011 1	180	-19%	-10%
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	8,897 C	140	--	9%
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	561	83	6%	11%
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	28,225	262	29%	10%
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	13,167	274	5%	4%
TEXAS District Court	38,238	229	18%	0%
UTAH District Court	2,527 C	152	--	100%
WASHINGTON Superior Court	19,515	437	132%	98%
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	4,558 C	140	19%	4%
Limited jurisdiction courts:				
ALASKA District Court	4,069 1	763	--	362%
HAWAII District Court	738	69	-35%	11%
OHIO County Court	463	4	-43%	0%
OHIO Municipal Court	13,999	130	74%	7%
TEXAS County-level Courts	9,833	59	--	18%

(continued on next page)

N/A = Data are unavailable.
-- = Data element is not applicable.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

nc: The following courts' data are not comparable:

Alaska--Superior and District Courts--The 1981 and 1984 data are not comparable to the 1985 and 1986 data because torts are separated from the unclassified civil figure in significantly greater quantities during 1985 and 1986 than in previous years.

Florida--Circuit Court--There were 21,063 new filings in 1981, but they did not include reopened cases; therefore, the 1981 data are not comparable with the 1984, 1985, and 1986 data. Data for 1984 and 1985 do not include professional tort cases reported with other civil cases.

Maryland--Circuit Court--Tort filings for 1981 could not be separated from other civil filings.

Michigan--Circuit Court--Tort filings are unavailable in 1984 for Hillsdale County, Osceola County, Kalkaska County, and Delta County.

Montana--District Court--1981 data are not comparable with 1984, 1985, and 1986 data due to changes in reporting.

Texas--County-level Courts--Tort filings for 1981 and 1984 do not include data from Harris County (i.e., Houston).

Utah--District Court--Tort filings for 1981 could not be separated from other civil filings.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Montana--District Court--Tort filings include some civil appeals cases.

North Carolina--Superior Court--Tort filings include some miscellaneous civil cases.

Utah--District Court--Tort filings include de novo appeals from the Justice of the Peace Courts.

i: The following courts' data are 75% complete:

Alaska--District Court--Data do not include filings in the low volume District Courts, which are reported with unclassified civil cases.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Data do not include a small number of District Court transfers reported with other civil cases. The number of District Court transfers in 1984, 1985, and 1986 respectively are: 141, 146, and 16.

Idaho--District Court--Data do not include some filings reported with unclassified civil cases. The unclassified figures for 1984, 1965, and 1986 respectively are: 20,365, 20,644, and 21,281.

Maryland--Circuit Court--Data do not include some filings reported with unclassified civil cases. The unclassified figures for 1984, 1985, and 1986 respectively are: 827, 1,438 and 976.

Missouri--Circuit Court--Data do not include filings from St. Louis County and do not include torts filed in the associate divisions with civil jurisdiction under $5,000. 1984 and 1985 data also do not include filings from Boone County.

New Jersey--Superior Court--Data do not include some torts reported with unclassified civil cases. The unclassified figures for 1984, 1985, and 1986 respectively are: 38,025, 40,026, and 46,865.

New York--Supreme and County Courts--Data include only those cases that were counted at the trial note of issue.

TABLE 2.3: State Courts Reporting Auto and Nonauto Tort Filings, 1985-1986

State/Court name:	Auto Tort Filings 1985: Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Auto Tort Filings 1985: Filings per 100,000 population	Auto Tort Filings 1986: Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Auto Tort Filings 1986: Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:				
ARIZONA Superior Court	7,140	224	8,047	242
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	63,750	242	82,258	305
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	7,455 C	236	8,233 C	258
FLORIDA Circuit Court	N/A	--	20.138	172
HAWAII Circuit Court	874 1	83	883 1	83
MARYLAND Circuit Court	7,174 1	163	9,099 1	204
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	7,084	121	7,446	128
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	8,756	96	9,375	102
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	37,512	496	41,333	542
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	16,458 1	93	14,862 1	84
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	N/A	--	4,620	73
TEXAS District Court	18,533	133	17,941	108
Limited jurisdiction courts:				
TEXAS County-level Courts	6,395	39	7,621	46

State/Court name:	Non-Auto Tort Filings 1985: Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Non-Auto Tort Filings 1985: Filings per 100,000 population	Non-Auto Tort Filings 1986: Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Non-Auto Tort Filings 1986: Filings per 100,000 population	Percent change in filings per 100,000 population 1985-1986: Auto Torts	Percent change in filings per 100,000 population 1985-1986: Non-Auto Torts
General jurisdiction courts:						
ARIZONA Superior Court	3,608	113	3,841	116	8%	3%
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	48,299	183	47,948	178	26%	-3%
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	5,287 C	168	5,521 C	173	9%	3%
FLORIDA Circuit Court	N/A	--	15,397	132	--	--
HAWAII Circuit Court	802 1	76	866 1	81	0%	7%
MARYLAND Circuit Court	2,946 1	67	3,274 1	73	25%	9%
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	7,321	125	7,594	130	6%	4%
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	14,055	155	17,671	193	6%	25%
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	4,629 1	61	4,214 1	55	9%	-10%
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	19,091 1	107	17,149 1	96	-10%	-9%
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	N/A	--	4,277	68	--	--
TEXAS District Court	19,063	116	20,297	122	-4%	5%
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
TEXAS County-level Courts	1,847	11	2,212	13	18%	18%

N/A = Data are not available.
-- = Data are not applicable.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

C: The following court's data are overinclusive: Connecticut--Superior Court--Connecticut divides tort filings into vehicular and non-vehicular categories. The vehicular category includes a limited number of automobile products liability cases and cases involving railroads, boats and airplanes.

1: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
Hawaii--Circuit Court--A small number of torts are reported with unclassified civil cases.
Maryland--Circuit Court--A small number of torts are reported with unclassified civil cases. (There were 976 unclassified civil cases in 1986 and 1,438 in 1985.)
New Jersey--Superior Court--Non-auto tort filings are from the Special Civil Part only, and do not represent general jurisdiction claims.
New York--Supreme and County Courts--Data include only those cases that were counted at the trial note of issue.

TABLE 2.4: Total Civil and Tort Filings in State Trial Courts, 1985-1986

	1985					
	Civil			Tort		
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA Superior Court	18,315	D	3,515	2,096		402
ARIZONA Superior Court	97,262	J	3,052	10,748		337
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	33,637		1,426	5,382		228
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	626,496	B	2,376	112,049		425
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	89,995		2,785	4,537		140
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	150,323	D	4,736	12,742		401
FLORIDA Circuit Court	421,694		3,710	29,864	I	263
HAWAII Circuit Court	26,283	D	2,494	1,676	I	159
IDAHO District Court	60,347	B	6,005	2,010	I	200
KANSAS District Court	124,995	B	5,102	4,061		166
MAINE Superior Court	7,199	B	618	2,072		178
MARYLAND Circuit Court	99,842		2,273	10,120	I	230
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	149,316		1,643	23,742		261
MINNESOTA District Court	205,241	D	4,895	--		--
MISSOURI Circuit Court	224,651	P	4,467	9,678	I	192
MONTANA District Court	27,648	D	3,347	1,870		226
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	597,399	J	7,900	42,141	I	557
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	126,776	O	713	35,549	I	200
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	87,670		1,402	8,062	C	129
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	14,239	B	2,079	512		75
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	290,520	E	2,704	25,518		238
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Courts	104,430	D	2,193	12,565		264
TEXAS District Court	451,035	D	2,755	37,596		230
UTAH District Court	30,009	C	1,824	1,245	C	76
WASHINGTON Superior Court	122,505	O	2,779	9,747		221
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	62,393	O	1,910	4,388	C	134
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA District Court	24,046	B	4,615	860	I	165
FLORIDA County Court	323,241		2,844	--		--
HAWAII District Court	20,622		1,957	652		62
OHIO County Court	24,542		228	464		4
OHIO Municipal Court	326,127		3,035	12,992		121
TEXAS County-Level Courts.......	161,754	C	988	8,242		50
PUERTO RICO District Court	46,074	C	1,410	1,579	C	48

-- = Data element is not applicable.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

B: The following courts' civil filings are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
Alaska--District Court
Arizona--Superior Court (1986)
California--Superior Court
Idaho--District Court
Kansas--District Court
Maine--Superior Court
Minnesota--District Court (1986)
North Dakota--District Court

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
North Carolina--Superior Court--Tort filings include some miscellaneous civil cases.
Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Tort filings include transfers and reopened cases.
--District Court--Civil and tort filings include transfers and reopened cases.
Texas--County-Level Courts--Civil filings include some juvenile cases.
Utah--District Court--Civil filings include some postconviction remedy proceedings. Tort filings include de novo appeals from the Justice of the Peace Courts.

	1986							
	Civil			Tort			Tort filings as a percent of civil filings	
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	1985	1986
General jurisdiction courts:								
ALASKA Superior Court	16,506	D	3,097	2,344		440	11%	14%
ARIZONA Superior Court	102,140	B	3,077	11,888		358	11%	12%
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	35,784		1,509	5,541		234	16%	15%
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	654,283	B	2,425	130,206		483	18%	20%
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	105,688		3,235	6,145		188	5%	6%
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	154,581	D	4,847	13,754		431	8%	9%
FLORIDA Circuit Court	442,809		3,793	35,535		304	7%	8%
HAWAII Circuit Court	26,171	D	2,462	1,749	1	165	6%	7%
IDAHO District Court	60,121	B	6,000	2,118	1	211	3%	4%
KANSAS District Court	134,131	B	5,452	4,274		174	3%	3%
MAINE Superior Court	6,622	B	565	2,044		174	29%	31%
MARYLAND Circuit Court	106,716		2,391	12,373	1	277	10%	12%
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	154,327		1,688	27,046		296	16%	18%
MINNESOTA District Court	233,927	B	5,551	10,356		246	--	4%
MISSOURI Circuit Court	237,782	P	4,694	10,746	1	212	4%	5%
MONTANA District Court	28,212	D	3,445	1,836		224	7%	7%
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	624,828	J	8,200	45,547	1	598	7%	7%
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	120,038	O	675	32,011	1	180	28%	27%
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	92,031		1,453	8,897	C	140	9%	10%
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	15,085	B	2,222	561		83	4%	4%
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	324,779	E	3,020	28,225		262	9%	9%
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Courts	106,890	D	2,225	13,167		274	12%	12%
TEXAS District Court	419,434	D	2,514	38,238		229	8%	9%
UTAH District Court	33,042	C	1,985	2,527	C	152	4%	8%
WASHINGTON Superior Court	135,933	D	3,046	19,515		437	8%	14%
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	68,295	O	2,086	4,558	C	140	7%	7%
Limited jurisdiction courts:								
ALASKA District Court	26,328	B	4,940	4,069	1	763	4%	15%
FLORIDA County Court	349,645		2,995	42,229		362	--	12%
HAWAII District Court	21,263		2,000	738		69	3%	3%
OHIO County Court	23,759		221	463		4	2%	2%
OHIO Municipal Court	342,714		3,187	13,999		130	4%	4%
TEXAS County-Level Courts.......	178,265	C	1,068	9,833		59	5%	6%
PUERTO RICO District Court	46,911	C	1,433	1,779	C	54	3%	4%

D: The following courts' data are overinclusive and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

Alaska--Superior Court--Civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Connecticut--Superior Court--Civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Civil filings include criminal postconviction remedy proceedings and some criminal and traffic/other violation cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Minnesota--District Court--Civil filings for 1985 include cases from the County Court and Conciliation and Probate Division and County Municipal Court which merged with the District Court in 1985.

Montana--District Court--Civil filings include appeals of trial court cases and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Court--Civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings and miscellaneous criminal cases, and are not comparable with other

(continued on next page)

states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Texas--District Court--Civil filings include some juvenile cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Washington--Superior Court--Civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, but are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

E: The following court's data include postconviction remedy proceedings:

Ohio--Court of Common Pleas

I: The following courts' data are 75% complete:

Alaska--District Court--Tort filings do not include cases from low volume District Courts, which are reported with other civil cases.

Florida--Circuit Court--Tort filings for 1985 do not include professional tort cases which are reported with the unclassified civil data.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Tort filings do not include a small number of District Court transfers reported with unclassified civil data. The number of District Court transfers in 1985 and 1986 respectively are 146 and 16.

Idaho--District Court--Tort filings do not include some cases which are reported with unclassified civil data. The unclassified figures for 1985 and 1986 respectively are 20,644 and 21,281.

Maryland--Circuit Court--Tort filings do not include some cases which are reported with unclassified civil data. The unclassified figures for 1985 and 1986 respectively are 1,438 and 976.

Missouri--Circuit Court--Tort data do not include filings from St. Louis County and do not include torts filed in the associate divisions with civil jurisdiction under $5,000. 1985 data also do not include tort filings from Boone County.

New Jersey--Superior Court--Tort filings do not include some cases which are reported with unclassified civil data. The unclassified figures for 1985 and 1986 respectively are 40,026 and 46,865.

New York--Supreme and County Court--Tort filings include only those cases which are counted at the trial note of issue.

J: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

Arizona--Superior Court--Civil filings for 1985 do not include mental health cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

New Jersey--Superior Court--Civil filings do not include a few domestic relations cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

O: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are overinclusive:

New York--Supreme and County Court--Civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings and include only those cases which are counted at the trial note of issue, but do not include civil appeals cases.

Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Civil filings include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include estate cases which are unavailable.

P: The following court's data are 75% complete, overinclusive, and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

Missouri--Circuit Court--Total civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some domestic relations cases, and are not comparable with other states' data due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

TABLE 2.5: General Civil Filings in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1986 and 1985-1986

	1981		1984		1985	
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:						
ALABAMA Circuit Court	28,460 C	727	29,650	743	32,447 C	807
ALASKA Superior Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	4,906	942
ARIZONA Superior Court	nc	nc	29,580	5,916	33,143	1,040
ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate Courts	7,545	329	5,151	219	6,117	259
Circuit Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	30,475	1,292
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	36,168	1,220	32,032	1,008	35,928	1,112
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	47,286	1,490
DELAWARE Superior Court	2,522 C	422	2,520	411	2,564 C	412
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	108,426	17,183	96,975	15,566	93,877	14,996
HAWAII Circuit Court	3,830 1	390	3,992	384	3,764 1	357
KANSAS District Court	54,005 1	2,266	57,140	2,344	62,501 1	2,551
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	47,917	527
MONTANA District Court	nc	nc	6,651	807	7,347	889
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	13,756 C	231	12,482 C	202	13,654 C	218
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	5,632	856	5,674	827	5,713	834
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	23,442	508	21,505	456	22,529	473
TEXAS District Court	68,451	464	85,873	537	95,659	584
UTAH District Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	3,856 C	234
WASHINGTON Superior Court	34,922	828	33,140	762	36,904	837
Limited jurisdiction courts.						
ALABAMA District Court	55,818	1,425	51,805	1,298	44,326	1,102
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	53,650	1,683
COLORADO County Court	45,423 1	1,532	65,485 1	2,061	72,174 1	2,234
DELAWARE Court of Common Pleas .	3,740	625	3,755	613	3,498	562
HAWAII District Court	13,549	1,381	13,968	1,344	14,974	1,421
INDIANA County Court	5,573	102	3,664	67	4,407 1	80
KENTUCKY District Court	57,627	1,574	56,359	1,514	52,997	1,422
MAINE District Court	nc	nc	16,146 C	1,397	15,901 C	1,366
MICHIGAN Municipal Court	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	869 1	10
NEBRASKA County Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	22,571 C	1,405
NEW HAMPSHIRE District Court ...	10,382	1,109	9,815	1,005	9,566	959
NEW MEXICO Magistrate Court	14,117	1,063	18,308	1,286	16,633	1,147
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	8,290	624	9,744	684	8,465	584
NEW YORK Civil Court of the City of New York	151,159	859	195,163	1,100	189,790	1,067
Court of Claims	1,330	8	1,678	9	1,953	11
District and City Courts	nc	nc	nc	nc	65,263	367
NORTH CAROLINA District Court ..	52,100	875	45,636	740	42,864	685
NORTH DAKOTA County Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	5,534 C	808
OHIO Municipal Court	260,068 1	2,412	221,523 1	2,060	225,593 1	2,100
County Court	11,302 1	105	9,542 1	89	9,316 1	87
OREGON District Court	33,862	1,277	24,518	917	26,299	979
PENNSYLVANIA District Justice Court	nc	nc	183,143	1,539	194,610	1,642
RHODE ISLAND District Court	23,689	2,486	18,759	1,950	21,396	2,210
TEXAS Justice of the Peace Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	204,952 V	1,252
UTAH Circuit Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	39,838	2,422

State/Court name:	1986		Percentage change in filings per 100,000 population 1981-1986	Percentage change in filings per 100,000 population 1985-1986
	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population		
General jurisdiction courts:				
ALABAMA Circuit Court	33,984 C	839	14%	4%
ALASKA Superior Court	2,998	562	--	68%
ARIZONA Superior Court	38,224	1,152	--	10%
ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate Courts	7,027	296	-11%	13%
Circuit Court	32,495	1,370	--	6%
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	47,787	1,463	17%	30%
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	50,474	1,583	--	6%
DELAWARE Superior Court	2,950 C	466	9%	12%
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	91,918	14,707	-17%	-2%
HAWAII Circuit Court	3,780 1	356	-10%	0%
KANSAS District Court	70,449 [T]	2,864	21%	11%
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	61,611	674	--	22%
MONTANA District Court	7,633	932	--	5%
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	14,842 C	234	1%	1%
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	5,974	880	3%	5%
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	23,568	491	-4%	4%
TEXAS District Court	94,258	565	18%	-3%
UTAH District Court	3,838	231	--	-1%
WASHINGTON Superior Court	47,289	1,060	22%	21%
Limited jurisdiction courts:				
ALABAMA District Court	44,492	1,198	-30%	0%
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace Court	64,036	1,929	--	13%
COLORADO County Court	122,683	3,755	59%	41%
DELAWARE Court of Common Pleas .	5,190	820	24%	31%
HAWAII District Court	15,497	1,458	5%	3%
INDIANA County Court.	4,991 1	91	-12%	12%
KENTUCKY District Court	60,598	1,625	3%	13%
MAINE District Court	15,771	1,345	--	-2%
MICHIGAN Municipal Court	900	10	--	0%
NEBRASKA County Court	33,304	2,085	--	33%
NEW HAMPSHIRE District Court ...	10,804	1,052	-5%	9%
NEW MEXICO Magistrate Court	15,415	1,042	-2%	-10%
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	9,237	625	0%	7%
NEW YORK Civil Court of the City of New York	196,216	1,104	22%	3%
Court of Claims	2,290	13	39%	15%
District and City Courts	87,234	491	--	25%
NORTH CAROLINA District Court ..	44,295	699	-25%	2%
NORTH DAKOTA County Court	4,908	723	--	-12%
OHIO Municipal Court	237,516 1	2,210	9%	5%
County Court	9,031 1	84	-25%	-4%
OREGON District Court	31,268	1,160	-10%	16%
PENNSYLVANIA District Justice Court	198,615	1,671	--	2%
RHODE ISLAND District Court	21,116	2,166	-15%	-2%
TEXAS Justice of the Peace Court	210,171 V	1,249	--	0%
UTAH Circuit Court..............	49,452	2,970	--	18%

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2.5: General civil filings in the state trial courts, 1981-1986 and 1985-1986. (continued)

N/A = Data are not available.
-- = Data element is not applicable.
[T] = Data include reopened cases.
nc = Data are not comparable with other years.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
  Alabama--Circuit Court--Data include civil appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings.
  Delaware--Superior Court--Data include administrative agency appeals.
  Maine--District Court--1981-1985 data include some domestic relations and juvenile cases.
  Nebraska--County Court--Data include cases from the Municipal Court from July 1, 1985 to December 31, 1985.
  North Carolina--Superior Court--1981-1985 data include administrative agency appeals. 1986 data include miscellaneous civil cases.
  North Dakota--County Court--1985 data include criminal appeals cases.
  Utah--District Court--1985 data include de novo appeals.

i: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
  Colorado--County Court--1981-1985 data do not include cases from Denver County Court.
  Hawaii--Circuit Court--Data do not include "unreported cases."
  Indiana--County Court--Data do not include "other" cases or "redocketed civil" cases.
  Kansas--District Court--1981-1985 data do not include all real property rights cases.
  Michigan--District Court--1985 data do not include cases from the city of Dearborn. Municipal Courts for Grosse Pointe Municipal and Grosse Pointe Shores did not report 1985 data.
  Ohio--Municipal Court and County Court--Data do not include cases classified as miscellaneous civil.

V: The following court's data are less than 75% complete:
  Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Data represent a reporting rate of 74%.

TABLE 2.6: Small Claims Filings in the State Trial Courts, 1984-1986

	1984			1985		
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:						
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	73,096		2,318	66,167		2,085
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	25,323		4,065	36,046		5,758
IDAHO District Court	14,174	C	1,416	16,808	C	1,672
ILLINOIS Circuit Court	217,641		1,891	215,471		1,868
INDIANA Superior and Circuit Courts	35,042	1	637	39,257	1	714
IOWA District Court	71,666		2,463	73,752		2,557
KANSAS District Court	14,229		584	14,429		589
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	134,254	1	2,316	137,826	1	2,367
MINNESOTA District Court	90,271	C	2,169	100,122	C	2,388
MISSOURI Circuit Court	19,106		382	19,717		392
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	51,137		680	50,956		674
OKLAHOMA District Court	85,181		2,583	87,008		2,636
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit Court	19,259		2,728	19,961		2,819
WISCONSIN Circuit Court	168,563		3,537	182,523		3,822
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
ALABAMA District Court	76,694		1,922	94,594		2,353
ALASKA District Court	10,735	1	2,147	14,284	1/nc	2,742
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace Court	41,715		1,366	40,850		1,282
CALIFORNIA Municipal Court	482,579		1,883	492,104		1,867
CALIFORNIA Justice Court	30,225		118	29,518		112
COLORADO County Court	16,460	1	518	16,739	1	519
FLORIDA County Court	163,171		1,487	207,492		1,826
GEORGIA Magistrate Court	N/A		--	N/A		--
HAWAII District Court	5,388		519	5,298		503
INDIANA County Court	67,283	1	1,224	72,964	1	1,327
INDIANA Small Claims Court of Marion County	54,380		989	58,223		1,059
KENTUCKY District Court	28,525		766	28,680		770
MAINE District Court	22,718		1,965	24,880		2,137
MICHIGAN District Court	81,012	nc	893	88,950	nc	979
MICHIGAN Municipal Court	N/A		--	224	1	2
NEBRASKA County Court	14,674	C	914	14,974	C	933
NEW HAMPSHIRE District Court	28,993		2,968	28,077		2,813
NEW HAMPSHIRE Municipal Court ...	520		53	348		35
NEW YORK District Court and City Court	47,887		270**	50,847		286**
NEW YORK Civil Court of NY City .	52,065		294**	56,691		319**
NORTH CAROLINA District Court....	194,321		3,152	204,071		3,263
NORTH DAKOTA County Court	8,523		1,242	8,822		1,288
OHIO County Court	11,662		108	12,468		116
OHIO Municipal Court	82,155		764	84,916		790
OREGON District Court	37,548		1,404	38,308		1,426
PENNSYLVANIA Philadelphia Municipal Court	26,253		1,555***	36,242		2,147***
RHODE ISLAND District Court	12,087		1,256	11,997		1,239
TEXAS Justice of the Peace Courts	nc		--	73,155	nc	447
UTAH Circuit Court	31,467		1,905	29,904		1,818
UTAH Justice of the Peace Court .	nc		--	3,878		236
VERMONT District Court	8,952		1,689	13,164		2,461
WASHINGTON District Court	26,433	nc	608	28,180		639
WYOMING Justice of the Peace Court	N/A		--	N/A		--
WYOMING County Court	9,731		1,904	N/A		--

	1986			
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Percent change in filings per 100,000 population 1985-86	Dollar limit jurisdiction (1984/1985/1986)
General jurisdiction courts:				
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	67,450	2,115	1%	1,000/1,000/1,500*
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	35,197	5,632	-2%	750/2,000*/2,000
IDAHO District Court	17,366 C	1,733	4%	--
ILLINOIS Circuit Court	184,538	1,598	-14%	2,500/2,500/2,500
INDIANA Superior and Circuit Courts	58,788 1	1,068	50%	1,500/3,000*/3,000
IOWA District Court	68,465	2,402	-6%	2,000/2,000/2,000
KANSAS District Court	15,096	614	4%	500/500/1,000*
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	152,331 1	2,612	10%	1,200/1,200/1,500*
MINNESOTA District Court	102,873	2,441	2%	1,250/2,000*/2,000
MISSOURI Circuit Court	20,801	411	5%	1,000/1,000/1,000
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	50,291	660	-2%	1,000/1,000/1,000
OKLAHOMA District Court	89,193	2,699	2%	1,500/1,500/1,500
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit Court	21,814	3,081	9%	1,500/2,000*/2,000
WISCONSIN Circuit Court	186,034	3,888	2%	1,000/1,000/1,000
Limited jurisdiction courts:				
ALABAMA District Court	115,203	2,842	21%	500/1,000*/1,000
ALASKA District Court	15,069 1	2,827	3%	--/2,000/5,000*
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace Court	41,931	1,263	-1%	500/500/500
CALIFORNIA Municipal Court	511,126	1,894	1%	1,500/1,500/1,500
CALIFORNIA Justice Court	27,287	101	-10%	1,500/1,500/1,500
COLORADO County Court	22,083	676	30%	1,000/1,000/1,500*
FLORIDA County Court	217,738	1,865	2%	1,500/2,500*/2,500
GEORGIA Magistrate Court	105,413 1	1,727	--	--/--/2,500
HAWAII District Court	5,592	526	5%	2,500/2,500/2,500
INDIANA County Court	61,850 1	1,124	-15%	1,500/3,000*/3,000
INDIANA Small Claims Court of Marion County	60,602 C	1,101	4%	1,500/3,000*/3,000
KENTUCKY District Court	28,582	766	-1%	1,000/1,000/1,000
MAINE District Court	26,981	2,300	8%	1,000/1,400*/1,400
MICHIGAN District Court	107,152	1,172	20%	-- /1,000/1,500*
MICHIGAN Municipal Court	228	2	0%	-- /1,000/1,500*
NEBRASKA County Court	14,342 C	898	-4%	1,000/1,500*/1,500
NEW HAMPSHIRE District Court	29,182	2,841	1%	1,500/1,500/1,500
NEW HAMPSHIRE Municipal Court ...	398	39	11%	1,500/1,500/1,500
NEW YORK District Court and City Court	50,791	286**	0%	1,000/1,500*/1,500
NEW YORK Civil Court of NY City .	57,954	326**	2%	1,500/1,500/1,500
NORTH CAROLINA District Court....	226,044	3,569	9%	1,000/1,000/1,500*
NORTH DAKOTA County Court	8,139	1,199	-7%	1,500/2,000*/2,000
OHIO County Court	11,792	110	-5%	1,000/1,000/1,000
OHIO Municipal Court	87,740	816	3%	1,000/1,000/1,000
OREGON District Court	42,686	1,582	11%	1,000/1,500*/1,500
PENNSYLVANIA Philadelphia Municipal Court	40,386	2,393***	11%	1,000/5,000*/5,000
RHODE ISLAND District Court	12,654	1,298	5%	500/1,000*/1,000
TEXAS Justice of the Peace Courts	72,448 nc	434	-3%	--/1,000/1,000
UTAH Circuit Court	30,926	1,857	2%	600/600/1,000*
UTAH Justice of the Peace Court .	3,494	210	-11%	--/600/1,000*
VERMONT District Court	13,166	2,434	-1%	500/2,000*/2,000
WASHINGTON District Court	29,910	670	5%	--/1,000/1,000
WYOMING Justice of the Peace Court	3,708	731	--	750/750/750
WYOMING County Court	7,850	1,548	--	750/750/750

(continued on next page)

*There was a change in dollar amount jurisdiction during the statistical reporting year.

**This is not a statewide figure, but it is the only court in the state with small claims jurisdiction. The per capita figure was computed using the state's population because local data are unavailable.

***Filings per 100,000 population in the Philadelphia Municipal Court were computed based upon Philadelphia's 1986 population estimate.

N/A = Data are unavailable.
-- = Data element is not applicable.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

nc: The following courts' data are not comparable:
- Alaska--District Court--In 1985, a concerted effort was begun to collect on defaulted student loans. Much of the increase between 1984-85 is attributed to that effort, although some of these cases were also filed in the general jurisdiction court. Thus, 1985 data are not comparable to data from 1984.
- Michigan--District Court--Data are missing from four courts in 1984, and from three courts in 1985.
- Texas--Justice of the Peace Courts--In 1984 data are available from 8,558 justices, in 1985 data are available from 8,428 justices, and in 1986 data are available from 8,557 justices. Remaining data was estimated.
- Utah--Justice of the Peace Court--Data for 1984 are only two-thirds complete.
- Washington--District Court--Data for 1984 are missing from two courts.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Idaho--District Court--Data include appeals of small claims cases.
- Minnesota--District Court--Data for 1984 and 1985 include appeals of small claims cases. The County Court and Conciliation and Probate Division and County Municipal Court merged with the District Court in 1985. Data have been merged for 1984, also, to ensure comparability.
- Nebraska--County Court--Data include cases from the Municipal Court which merged with the County Court effective July 1, 1985. Municipal Court data were added to the County Court caseload for 1984 so that the data across the three-year period is comparable.

i: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
- Alaska--District Court--Data do not include cases filed in the low volume District Courts, which are reported with unclassified civil cases.
- Colorado--County Court--Data do not include cases filed in the Denver County Court for 1984 and 1985.
- Georgia--Magistrate Court--Data include cases from only 140 of the 159 counties.
- Indiana--Superior and Circuit Courts--Data do not include some cases reported with unclassified civil data.
- Indiana--County Court--Data do not include some cases reported with unclassified civil data.
- Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Data do not include some filings of the District Court Department which are reported with unclassified civil data.
- Michigan--Municipal Court--Data are unavailable from two courts in 1985.

Part III

1986 State Court System Charts

1986 State Court System Charts

Court System Charts: An Explanatory Note

The charts in Part III summarize the key features of each state's court organization into a one-page diagram. The format is designed to meet two objectives: (1) to be comprehensive, indicating all court systems in the state and their interrelationships; and (2) to describe the jurisdiction of court systems using a comparable set of terminology and symbols. The common terminology is that developed by the NCSC's Court Statistics and Information Management (CSIM) Project for reporting caseload statistics.

The first chart is a prototype. It represents a state court organization in which there is one of each of the four court system levels recognized by the CSIM Project: courts of last resort, intermediate appellate courts, general jurisdiction trial courts, and limited jurisdiction trial courts. Routes of appeal from one court to another are indicated by lines, with an arrow showing which court receives the appeal or petition.

The charts also provide basic descriptive information, such as the number of authorized justices, judges, and magistrates (or other judicial officers). Each court system's subject matter jurisdiction is indicated using the CSIM Project casetypes. Information is also provided on the use of districts, circuits, or divisions in organizing the courts within the system and the number of courts, where this coincides with a basic government unit.

The casetypes, which define a court system's subject matter jurisdiction, require the most explanation. This is done separately for appellate and trial court systems.

Appellate Courts

The rectangle representing each appellate court contains information on the number of authorized justices; the number of geographic divisions, if any, that are maintained; whether court decisions are made en banc, in panels or both; and the CSIM Project casetypes that are heard by the court. The casetypes are shown separately for mandatory and discretionary cases. The casetypes themselves are defined in other CSIM Project publications, especially *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting* and *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.

An appellate court can have both mandatory *and* discretionary jurisdiction over the same CSIM Project casetype. This arises, in part, because the CSIM Project casetypes are defined broadly in order to be applicable to every state's courts. There are, for example, only two appellate CSIM casetypes for criminal appeals: capital and noncapital. A court may have mandatory jurisdiction over felony cases but discretionary jurisdiction over misdemeanors. The listing of casetypes would include "criminal" for both mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction. The duplication of a casetype under both headings can also occur if appeals from one lower court for that casetype are mandatory, while appeals from another lower court are discretionary. Also, statutory provisions or court rules in some states automatically convert a mandatory appeal into a discretionary petition—for example, when an appeal is not filed within a specified time limit. A more comprehensive description of each appellate court's subject matter jurisdiction can be found in the *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting.*

Trial Courts

The rectangle representing each trial court also lists the applicable CSIM Project casetypes. These include civil, criminal, traffic/other violation, and juvenile. Where a casetype is simply listed, it means that the court system shares jurisdiction over it with other courts. The presence of exclusive jurisdiction is always explicitly stated. The absence of a casetype from a list means that the court does not have that subject matter jurisdiction. The dollar amount jurisdiction is shown where there is an upper or a lower limit to the cases that can be filed in a court. In criminal cases, jurisdiction is distinguished between "triable felony," where the court can try a felony case to verdict and sentencing, and "limited felony," which applies to those limited jurisdiction courts that can conduct preliminary hearings that bind a defendant over for trial in a higher court.

Trial courts can have what is termed incidental appellate jurisdiction. The presence of such jurisdiction over the decisions of other courts is noted in the list of casetypes as either "civil appeals," "criminal appeals," or "administrative agency appeal." A trial court that hears appeals directly from an administrative agency has an "A" in the upper right corner of the rectangle.

For each trial court, the chart states the authorized number of judges and whether the court can empanel a jury. The rectangle representing the court also indicates the number of districts, divisions, or circuits into which the court system is divided. These subdivisions are stated using the court system's own terminology. The descriptions are therefore not standardized across states or court systems.

Trial courts are differentiated into those that are totally funded from local sources and those that receive some form of state funds. Locally funded court systems are drawn with broken lines. A solid line indicates some or all of the funding is derived from state funds.

Symbols and Abbreviations

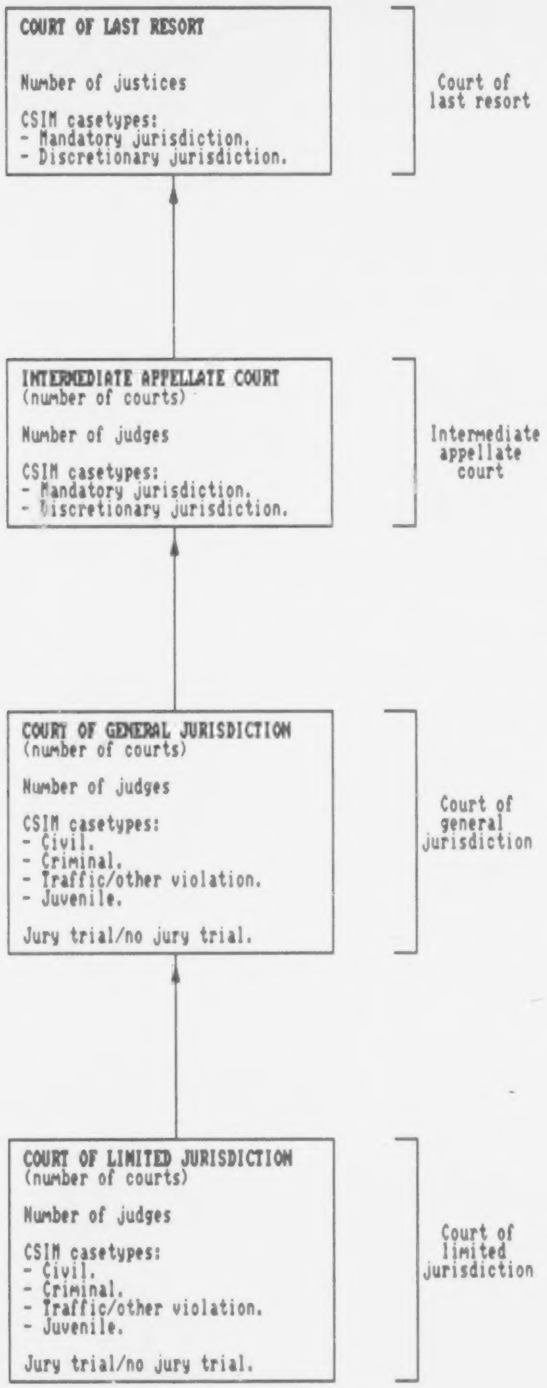
An "A" in the upper right corner of a rectangle representing either an appellate or a trial court indicates that the court receives appeals directly from the decisions of an administrative agency. Where "administrative agency appeals" is listed as a casetype, it indicates that the court hears appeals from decisions of another court on an administrative agency's actions. It is possible for a court to both have an "A" designation and to have "administrative agency appeals" listed as a casetype. Such a court hears appeals directly from an administrative agency ("A") and has appellate jurisdiction over the decisions of a lower court that has already reviewed the decision of the administrative agency (and is thus listed as a casetype).

The number of justices or judges is sometimes stated as "FTE." This represents "full time equivalent" authorized judicial positions. "DWI/DUI" stands for "driving while intoxicated/driving under the influence. The abbreviation, "SC", stands for "small claims."

Conclusion

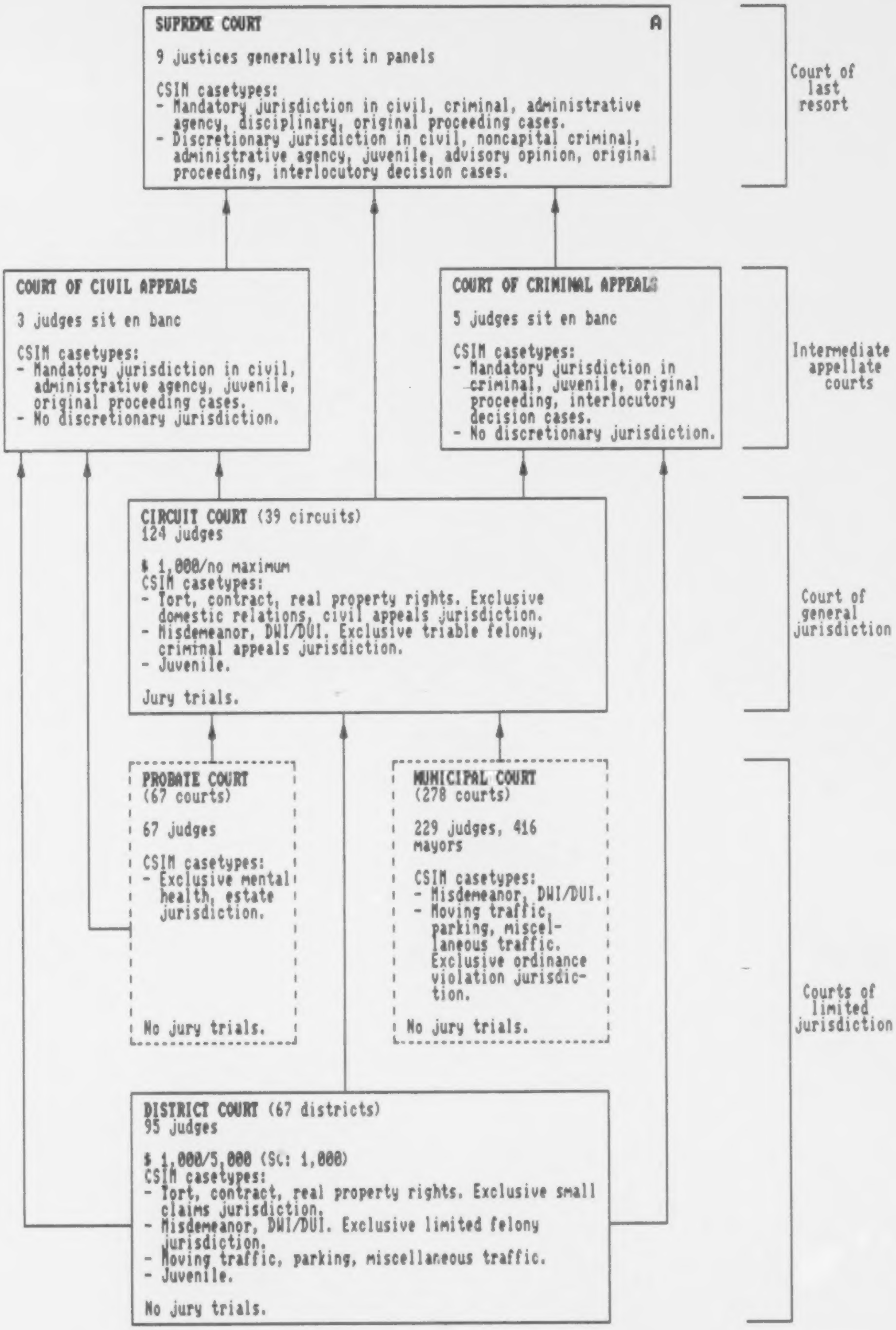
The court organization charts are convenient summaries. They do not substitute for the detailed descriptive material contained in *State Organization 1987*, another CSIM Project publication. Moreover, they are based on the CSIM Project's terminology and categories. This means that a state may have established courts that are not included in these charts. Some states have courts of special jurisdiction to receive complaints on matters that are more typically directed to administrative boards and agencies. Since these courts receive cases that do not fall within the CSIM Project casetypes, they are not included in the charts. However, the existence of such courts is recognized in a footnote to the state's organization chart.

STATE COURT STRUCTURE PROTOTYPE, 1986


COURT OF LAST RESORT
Number of justices
CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction.
Court of last resort
INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT
(number of courts)
Number of judges
CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction.
Intermediate appellate court
COURT OF GENERAL JURISDICTION
(number of courts)
Number of judges
CSIM casetypes:
- Civil.
- Criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.
Jury trial/no jury trial.
Court of general jurisdiction
COURT OF LIMITED JURISDICTION
(number of courts)
Number of judges
CSIM casetypes:
- Civil.
- Criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.
Jury trial/no jury trial.
Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

ALABAMA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

9 justices generally sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

5 judges sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate courts

CIRCUIT COURT (39 circuits)
124 judges

$ 1,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT
(67 courts)

67 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive mental health, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(278 courts)

229 judges, 416 mayors

CSIM casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (67 districts)
95 judges

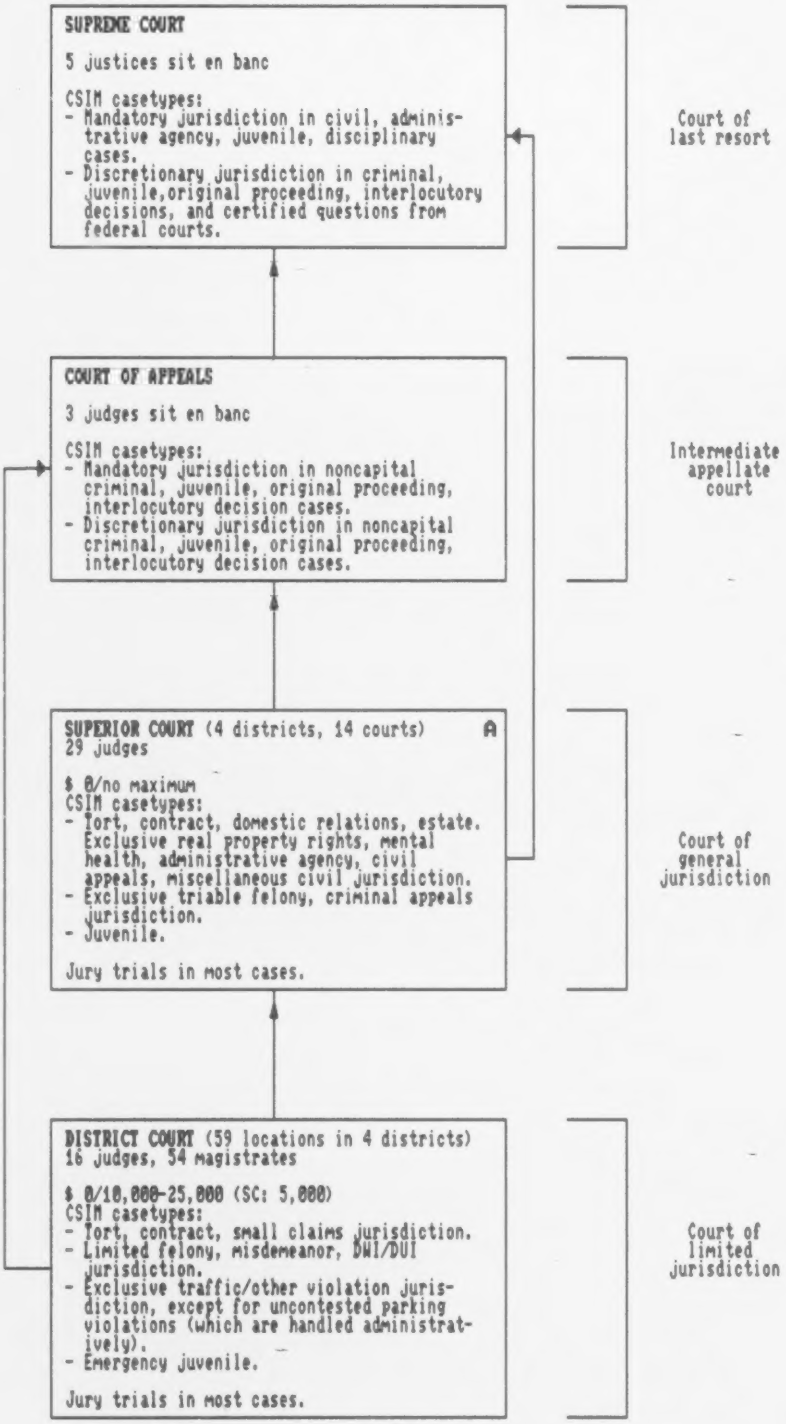
$ 1,000/5,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

ALASKA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Court of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decisions, and certified questions from federal courts.

COURT OF APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (4 districts, 14 courts)
29 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, domestic relations, estate. Exclusive real property rights, mental health, administrative agency, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

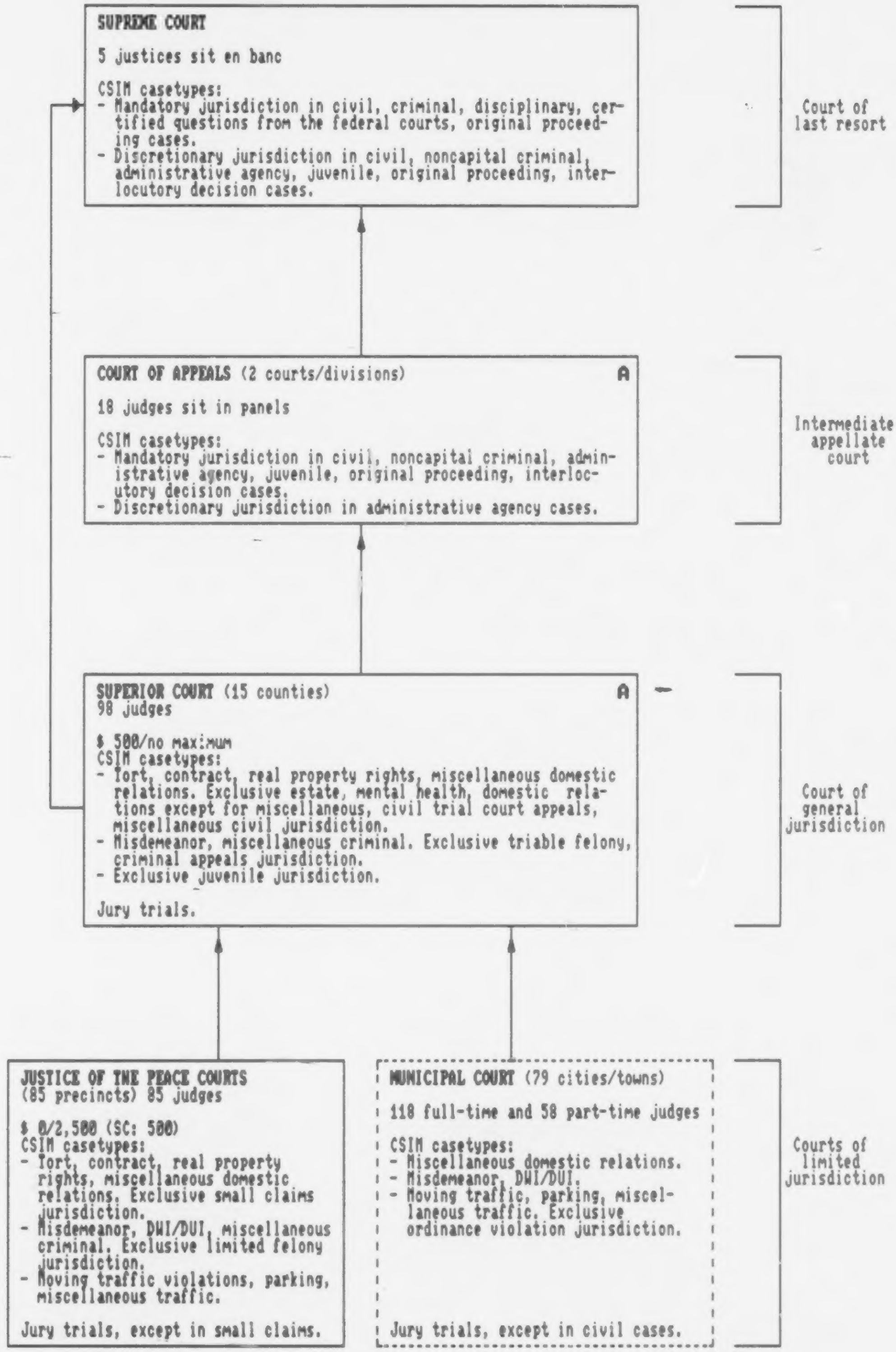
DISTRICT COURT (59 locations in 4 districts)
16 judges, 54 magistrates

$ 0/10,000-25,000 (SC: 5,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, small claims jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for uncontested parking violations (which are handled administratively).
- Emergency juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

ARIZONA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (2 courts/divisions) A

18 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (15 counties) A
98 judges

$ 500/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous domestic relations. Exclusive estate, mental health, domestic relations except for miscellaneous, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURTS
(85 precincts) 85 judges

$ 0/2,500 (SC: 500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous domestic relations. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic violations, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (79 cities/towns)

118 full-time and 58 part-time judges

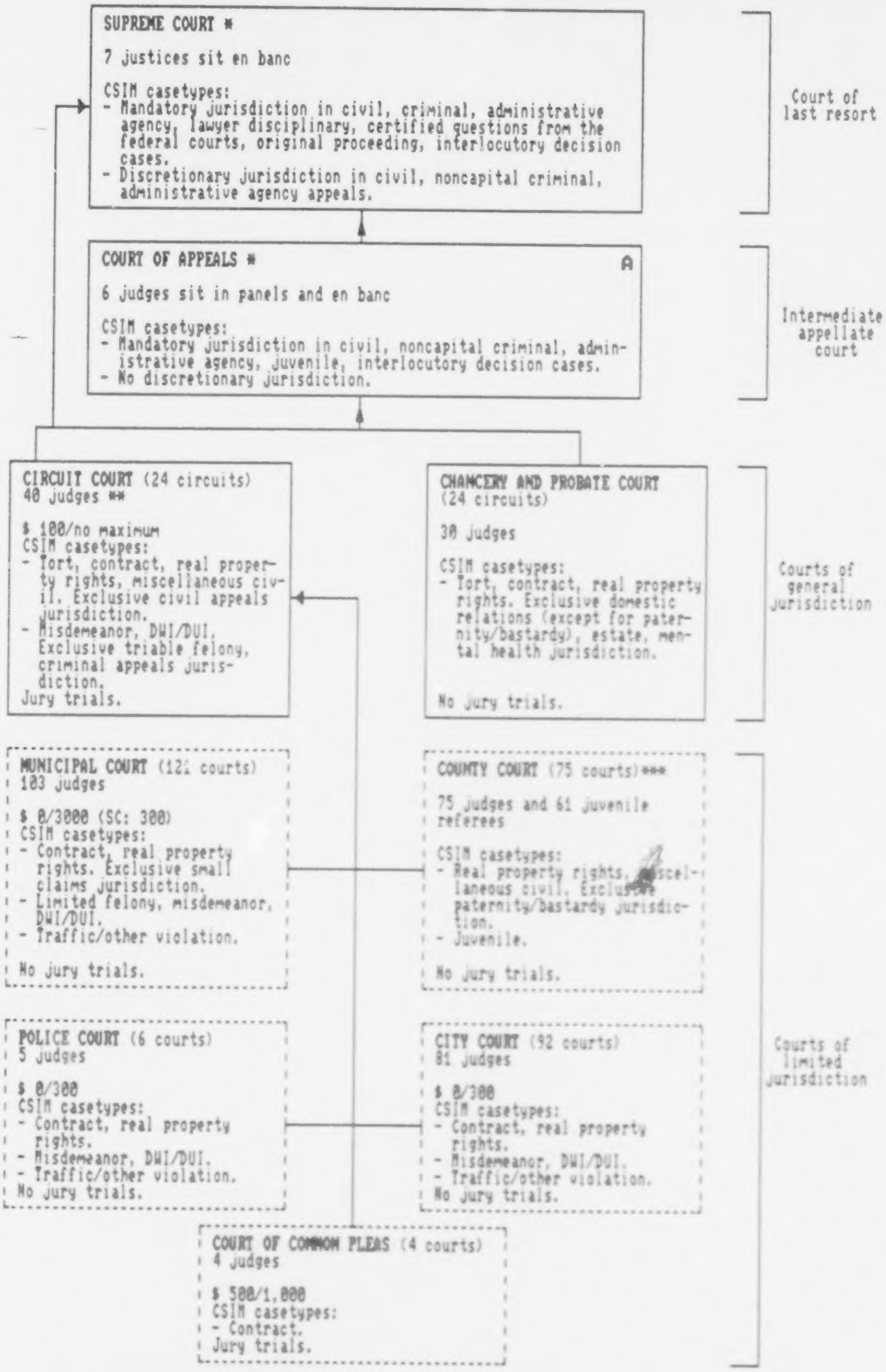
CSIM casetypes:
- Miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in civil cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

ARKANSAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT *

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency appeals.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS * A

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (24 circuits)
40 judges **

$ 100/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY AND PROBATE COURT
(24 circuits)

30 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations (except for paternity/bastardy), estate, mental health jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (121 courts)
103 judges

$ 0/3000 (SC: 300)
CSIM casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (75 courts)***

75 judges and 61 juvenile referees

CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive paternity/bastardy jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

POLICE COURT (6 courts)
5 judges

$ 0/300
CSIM casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

CITY COURT (92 courts)
81 judges

$ 0/300
CSIM casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (4 courts)
4 judges

$ 500/1,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Contract.

Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

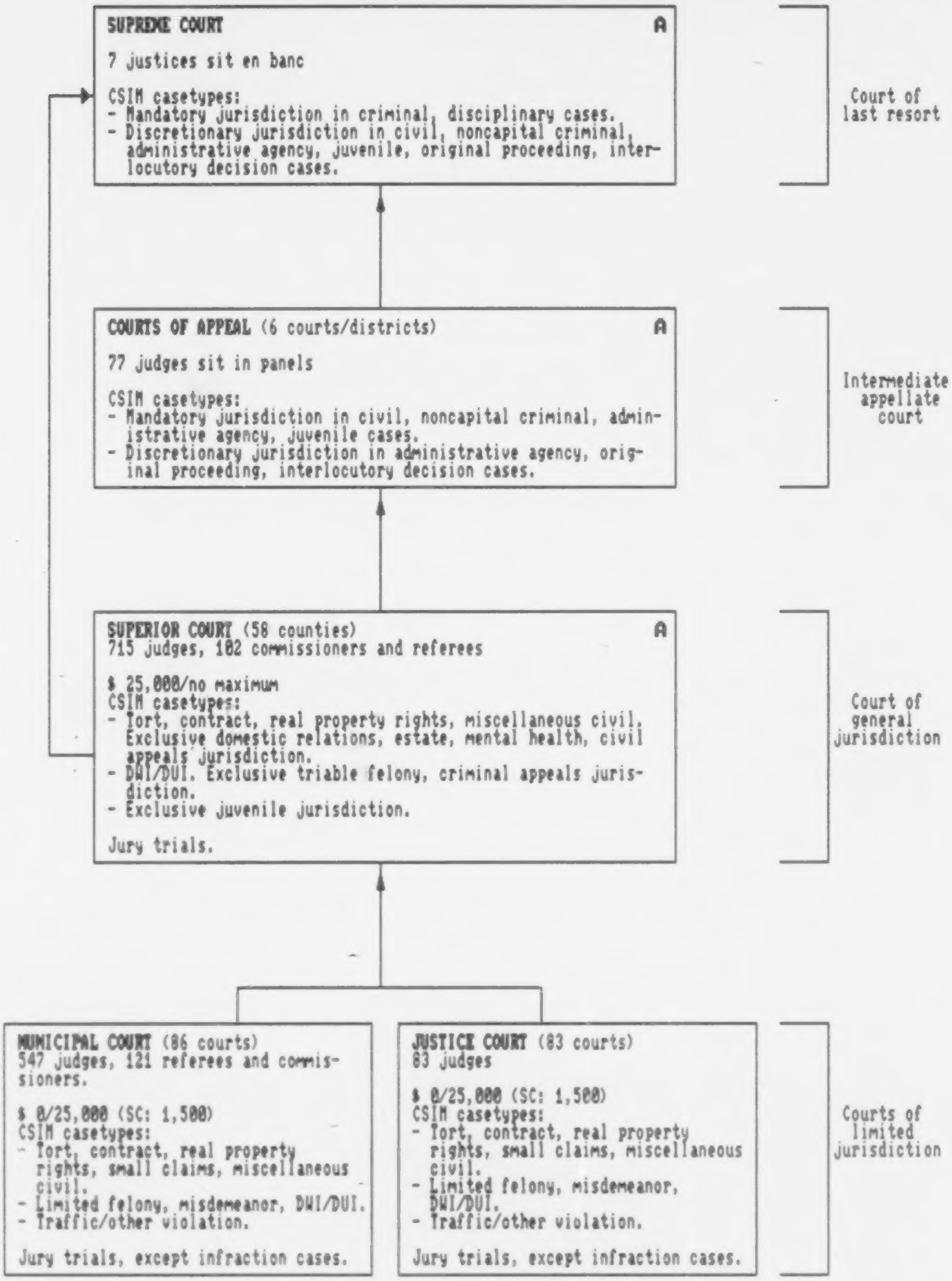
* Each of the appellate courts is the court of last resort for specific casetypes. Only a very few cases are ever appealed to the Supreme Court from the Court of Appeals.

** Eight judges also serve the Chancery and Probate Court.

*** Referred to as the Juvenile Court when handling juvenile matters.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

CALIFORNIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURTS OF APPEAL (6 courts/districts) A

77 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (58 counties) A
715 judges, 102 commissioners and referees

$ 25,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (86 courts)
547 judges, 121 referees and commissioners.

$ 0/25,000 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except infraction cases.

JUSTICE COURT (83 courts)
83 judges

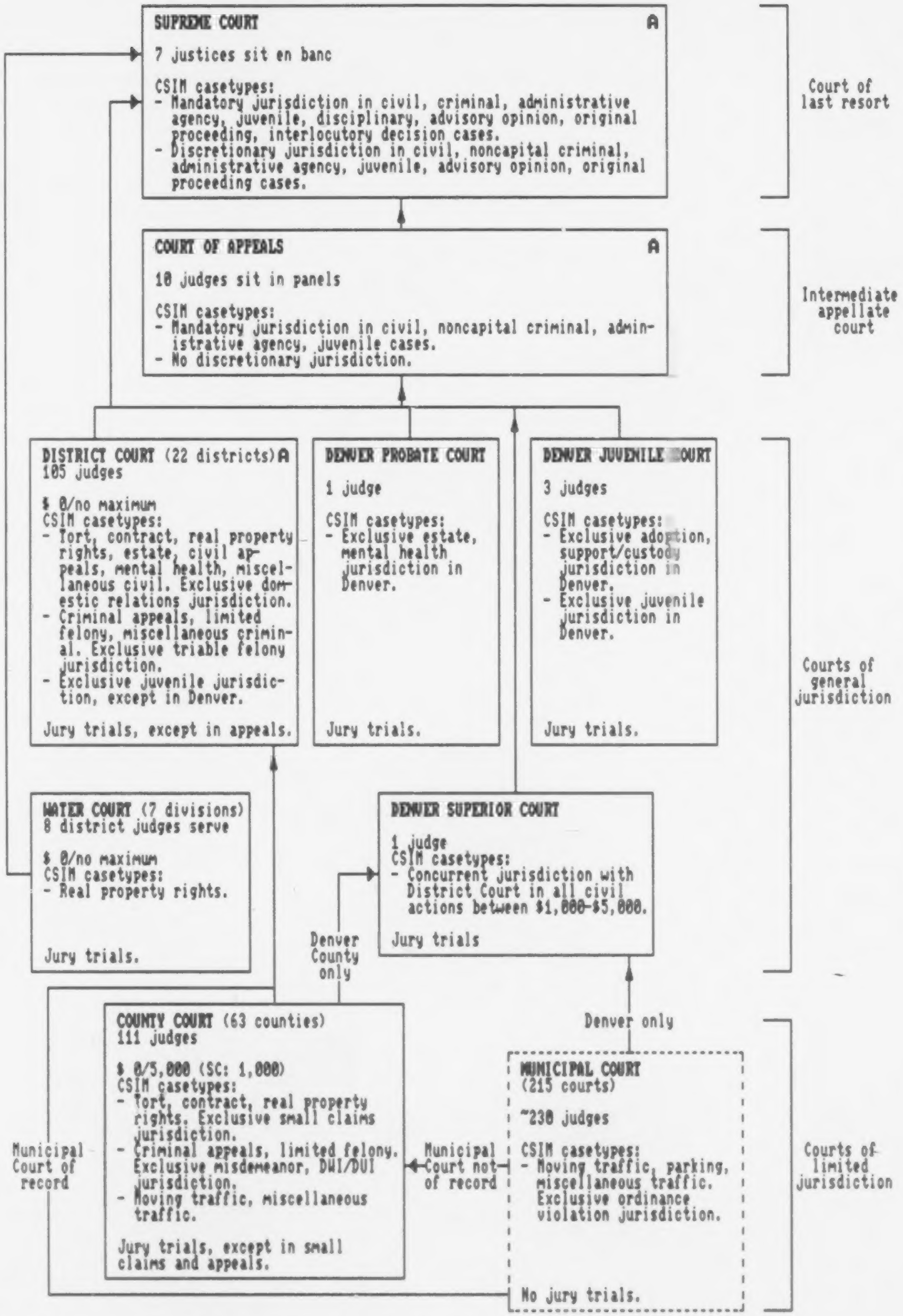
$ 0/25,000 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except infraction cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

COLORADO COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF APPEALS A

10 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURT (22 districts) A
105 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate, civil appeals, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Criminal appeals, limited felony, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction, except in Denver.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

DENVER PROBATE COURT

1 judge

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive estate, mental health jurisdiction in Denver.

Jury trials.

DENVER JUVENILE COURT

3 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive adoption, support/custody jurisdiction in Denver.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction in Denver.

Jury trials.

WATER COURT (7 divisions)
8 district judges serve

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights.

Jury trials.

DENVER SUPERIOR COURT

1 judge
CSIM casetypes:
- Concurrent jurisdiction with District Court in all civil actions between $1,000-$5,000.

Jury trials

COUNTY COURT (63 counties)
111 judges

$ 0/5,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Criminal appeals, limited felony. Exclusive misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims and appeals.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(215 courts)

~230 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

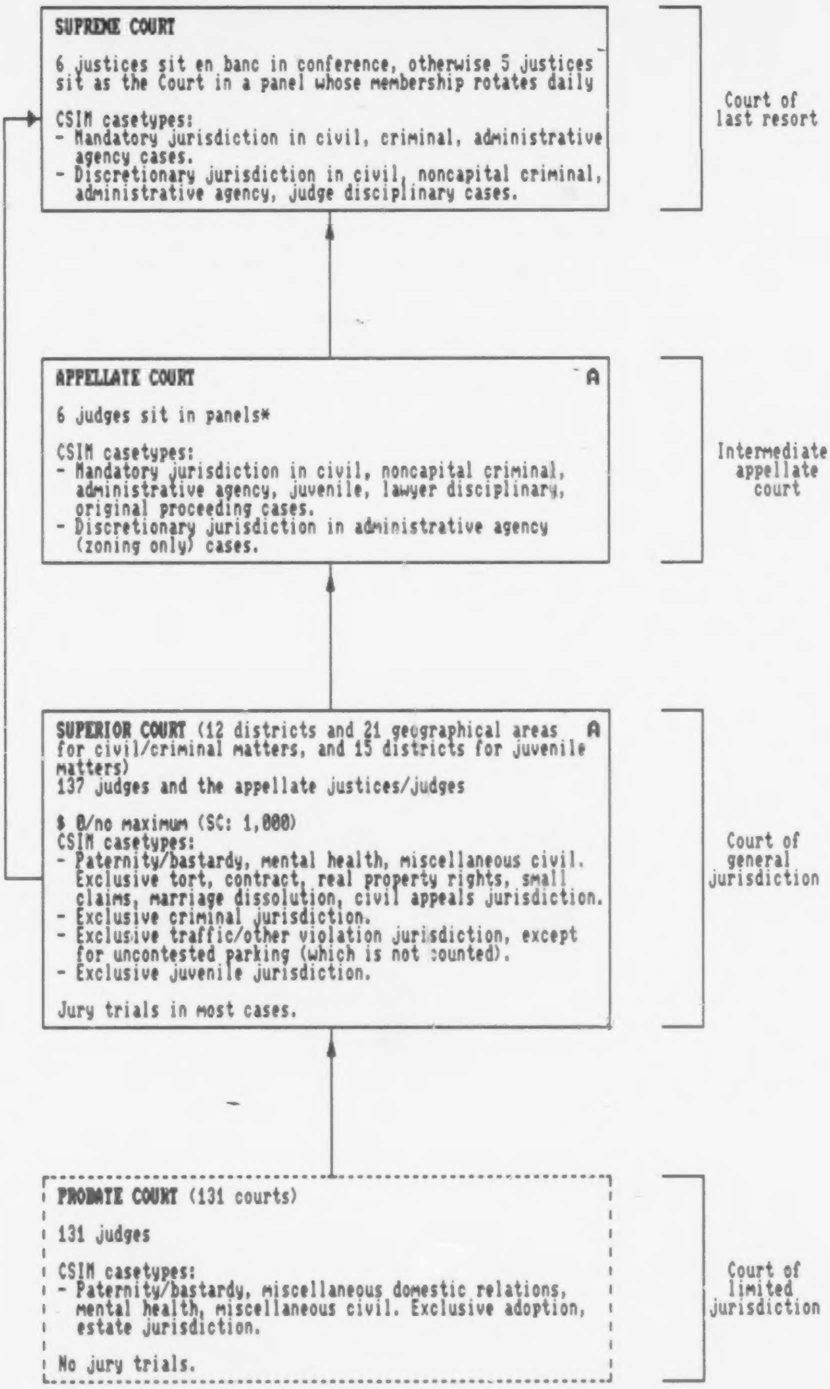
No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
Denver County only
Denver only
Municipal Court of record
Municipal Court not of record

The Denver Superior Court was abolished 11/14/86.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

CONNECTICUT COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

6 justices sit en banc in conference, otherwise 5 justices sit as the Court in a panel whose membership rotates daily

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, judge disciplinary cases.

Court of last resort

APPELLATE COURT A

6 judges sit in panels*

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency (zoning only) cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (12 districts and 21 geographical areas for civil/criminal matters, and 15 districts for juvenile matters) A

137 judges and the appellate justices/judges

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 1,000)

CSIM casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, marriage dissolution, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for uncontested parking (which is not counted).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT (131 courts)

131 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, estate jurisdiction.

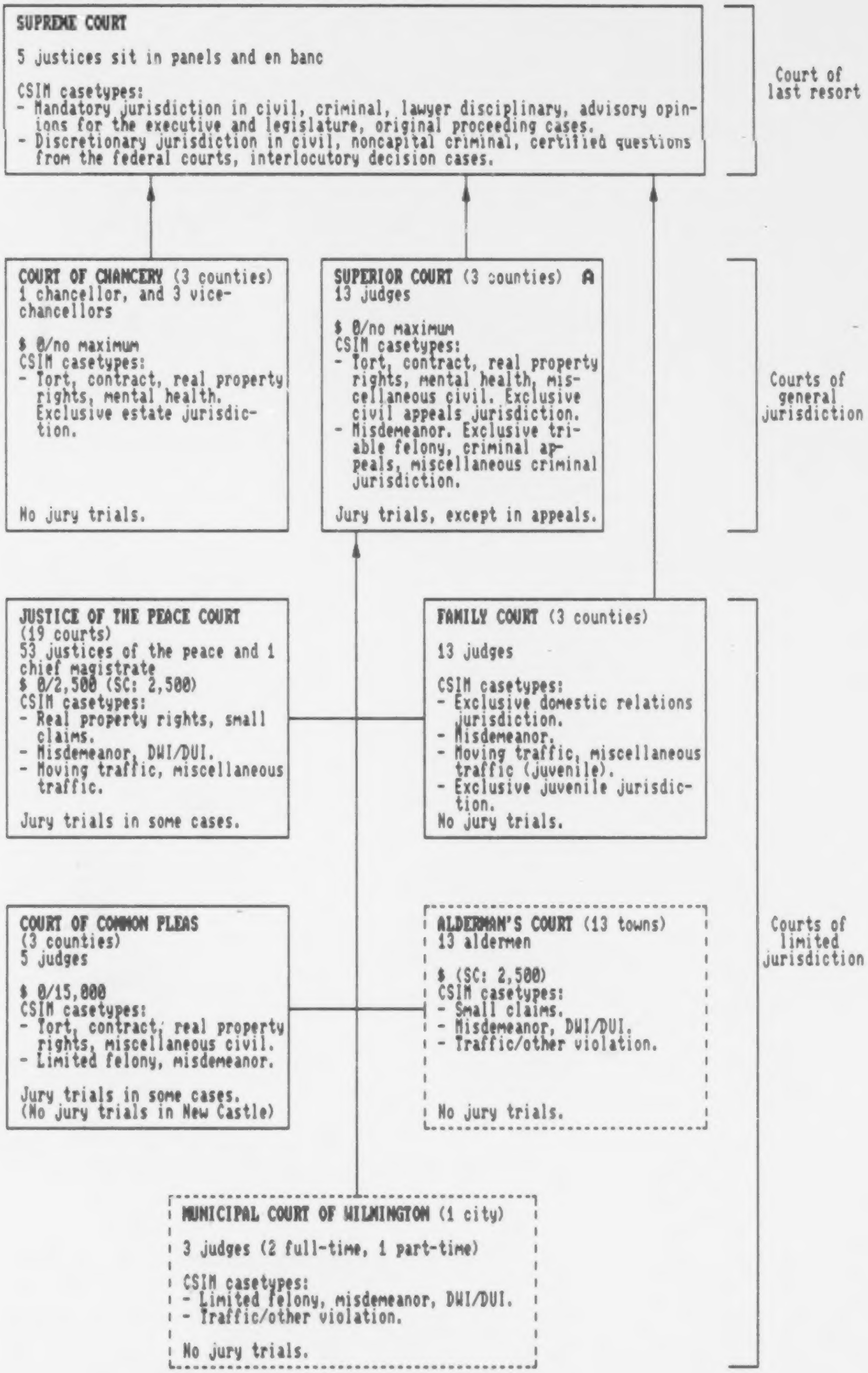
No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

* Increased to 6 effective June 30, 1986.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

DELAWARE COURT STRUCTURE, 1986


Court of last resort
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinions for the executive and legislature, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, certified questions from the federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF CHANCERY (3 counties)
1 chancellor, and 3 vice-chancellors

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, mental health. Exclusive estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

SUPERIOR COURT (3 counties) A
13 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(19 courts)
53 justices of the peace and 1 chief magistrate
$ 0/2,500 (SC: 2,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights, small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials in some cases.

FAMILY COURT (3 counties)

13 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic (juvenile).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
(3 counties)
5 judges

$ 0/15,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.

Jury trials in some cases.
(No jury trials in New Castle)

ALDERMAN'S COURT (13 towns)
13 aldermen

$ (SC: 2,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT OF WILMINGTON (1 city)

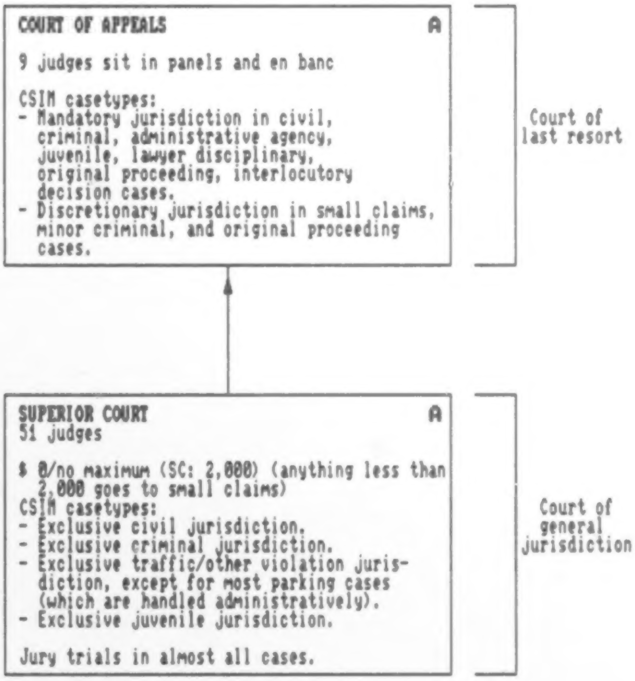
3 judges (2 full-time, 1 part-time)

CSIM casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



COURT OF APPEALS A

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in small claims, minor criminal, and original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT A
51 judges

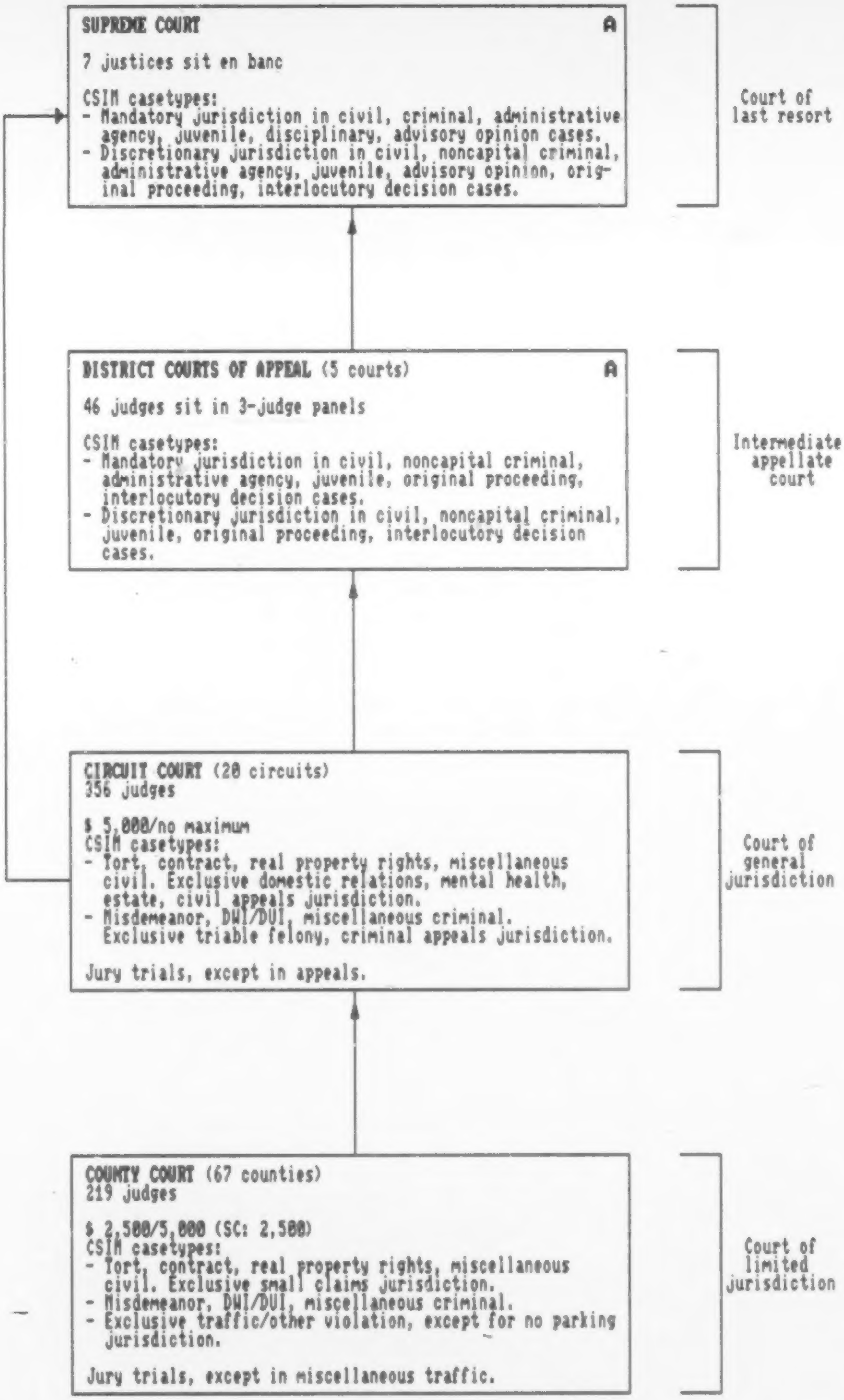
$ 0/no maximum (SC: 2,000) (anything less than 2,000 goes to small claims)
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for most parking cases (which are handled administratively).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in almost all cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

FLORIDA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURTS OF APPEAL (5 courts) A

46 judges sit in 3-judge panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (20 circuits)
356 judges

$ 5,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

COUNTY COURT (67 counties)
219 judges

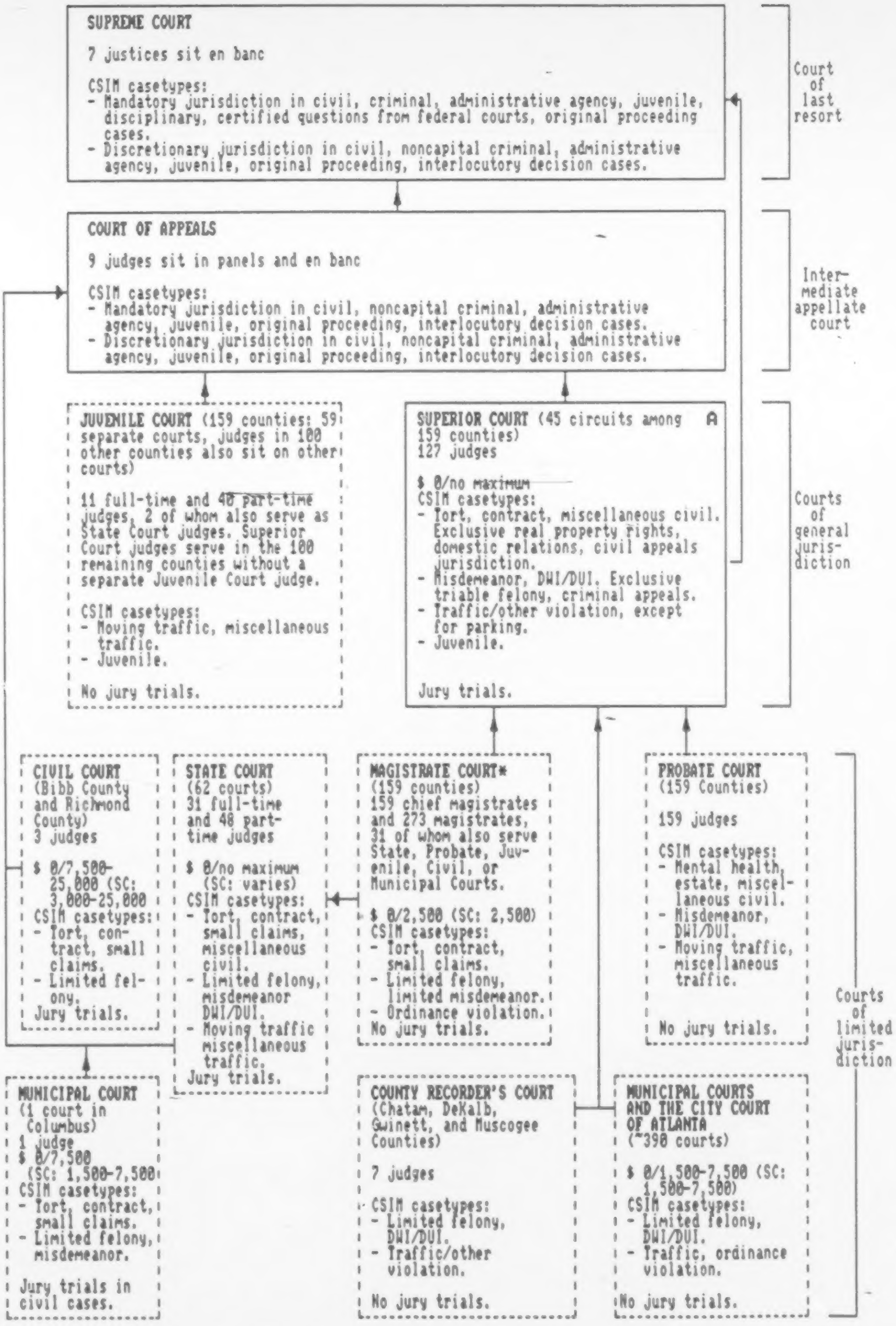
$ 2,500/5,000 (SC: 2,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation, except for no parking jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in miscellaneous traffic.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

GEORGIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

JUVENILE COURT (159 counties: 59 separate courts, judges in 100 other counties also sit on other courts)

11 full-time and 40 part-time judges, 2 of whom also serve as State Court judges. Superior Court judges serve in the 100 remaining counties without a separate Juvenile Court judge.

CSIM casetypes:
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

SUPERIOR COURT (45 circuits among 159 counties) A
127 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation, except for parking.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

CIVIL COURT
(Bibb County and Richmond County)
3 judges

$ 0/7,500-25,000 (SC: 3,000-25,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, small claims.
- Limited felony.

Jury trials.

STATE COURT
(62 courts)
31 full-time and 48 part-time judges

$ 0/no maximum (SC: varies)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, small claims, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

MAGISTRATE COURT*
(159 counties)
159 chief magistrates and 273 magistrates, 31 of whom also serve State, Probate, Juvenile, Civil, or Municipal Courts.

$ 0/2,500 (SC: 2,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, small claims.
- Limited felony, limited misdemeanor.
- Ordinance violation.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
(159 Counties)

159 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Mental health, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(1 court in Columbus)
1 judge
$ 0/7,500 (SC: 1,500-7,500
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.

Jury trials in civil cases.

COUNTY RECORDER'S COURT
(Chatam, DeKalb, Gwinett, and Muscogee Counties)

7 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Limited felony, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURTS AND THE CITY COURT OF ATLANTA
(~390 courts)

$ 0/1,500-7,500 (SC: 1,500-7,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Limited felony, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic, ordinance violation.

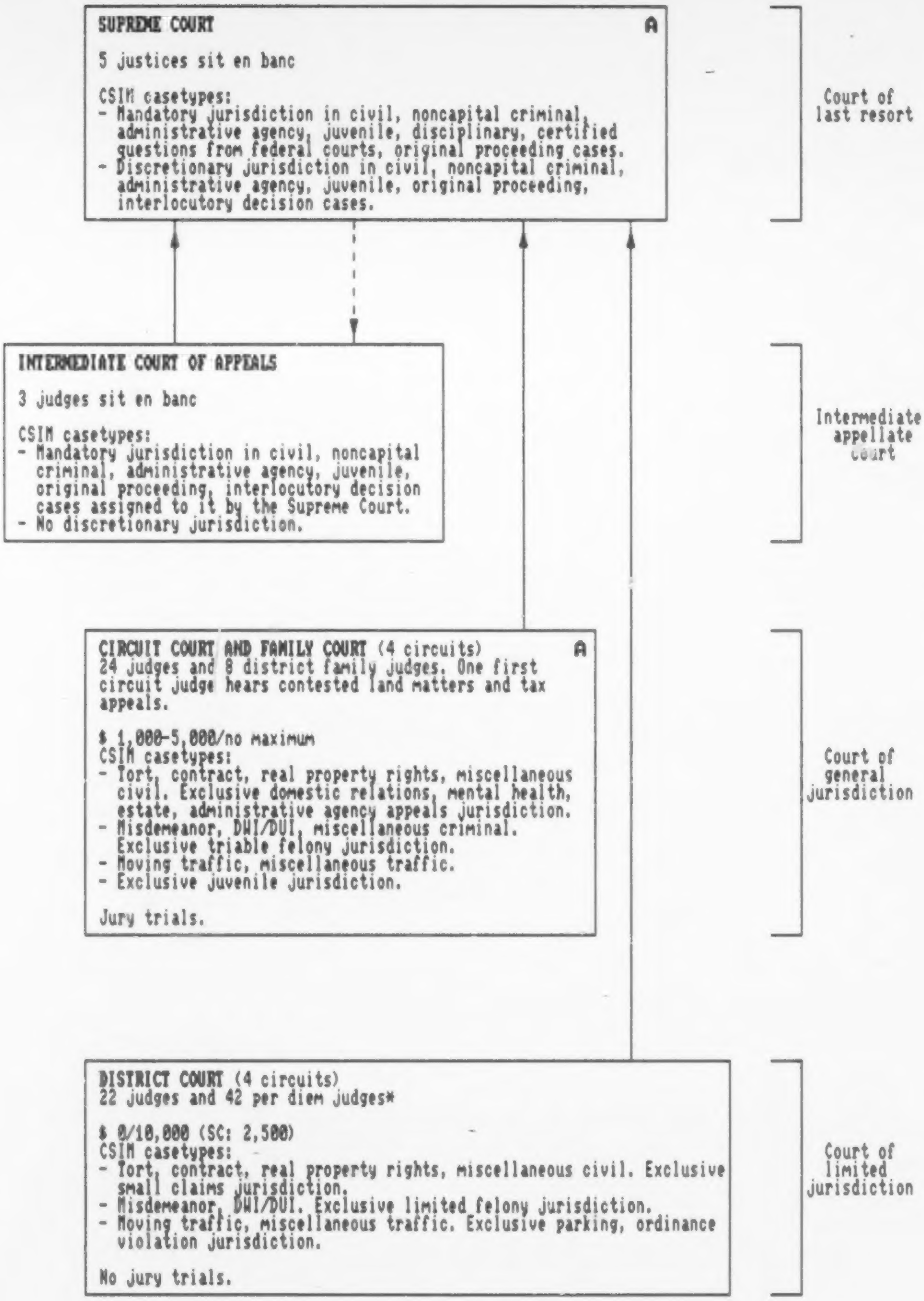
No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

*In July of 1983 the Justice of the Peace Court and the Small Claims Court were merged into the Magistrate Court by Constitutional Article.

Note: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

HAWAII COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT AND FAMILY COURT (4 circuits) A

24 judges and 8 district family judges. One first circuit judge hears contested land matters and tax appeals.

$ 1,000-5,000/no maximum

CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (4 circuits)

22 judges and 42 per diem judges*

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 2,500)

CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive parking, ordinance violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

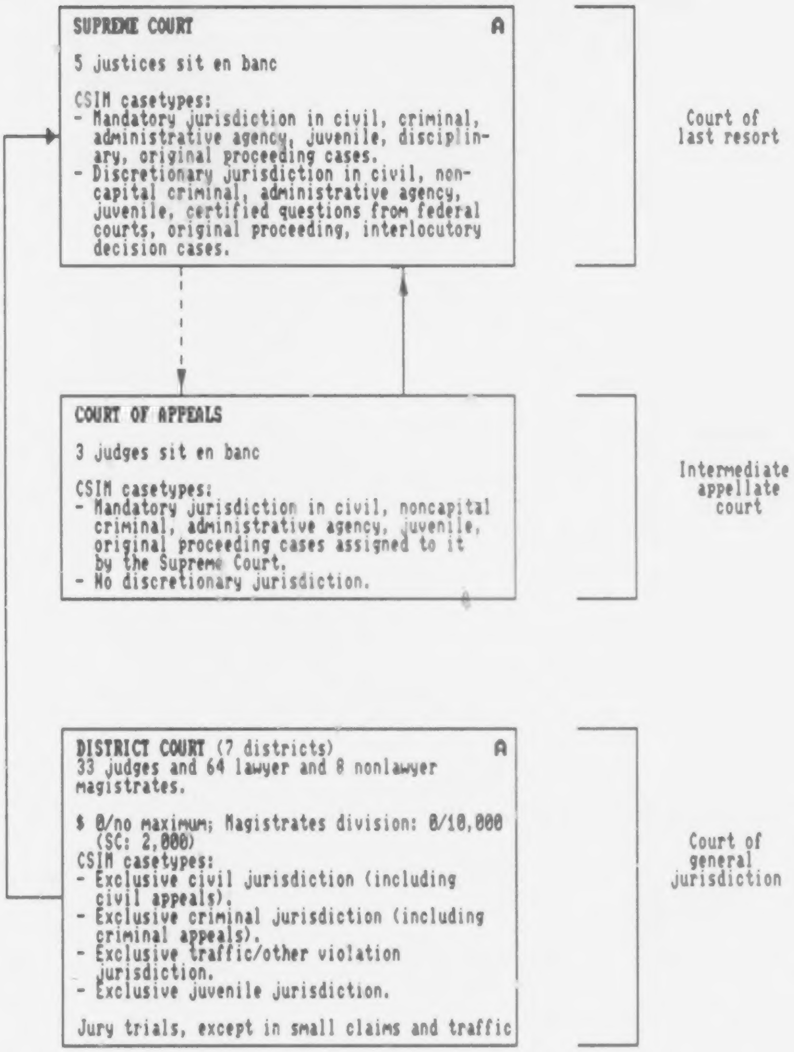
Court of limited jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

* Some per diem judges may also serve as Circuit Court judges in the First Circuit.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

IDAHO COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (7 districts) A

33 judges and 64 lawyer and 8 nonlawyer magistrates.

$ 0/no maximum; Magistrates division: 0/10,000 (SC: 2,000)

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

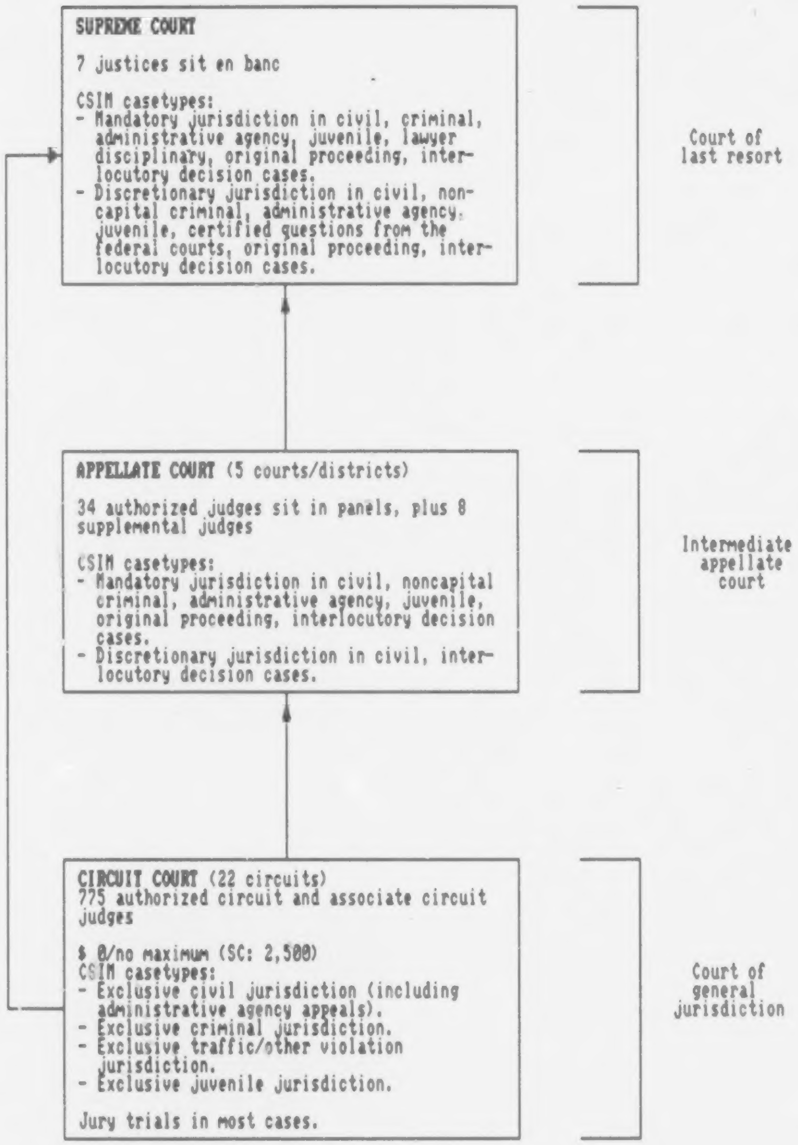
Jury trials, except in small claims and traffic

Court of general jurisdiction

---- indicates assignment of cases.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

ILLINOIS COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

APPELLATE COURT (5 courts/districts)

34 authorized judges sit in panels, plus 8 supplemental judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, interlocutory decision cases.

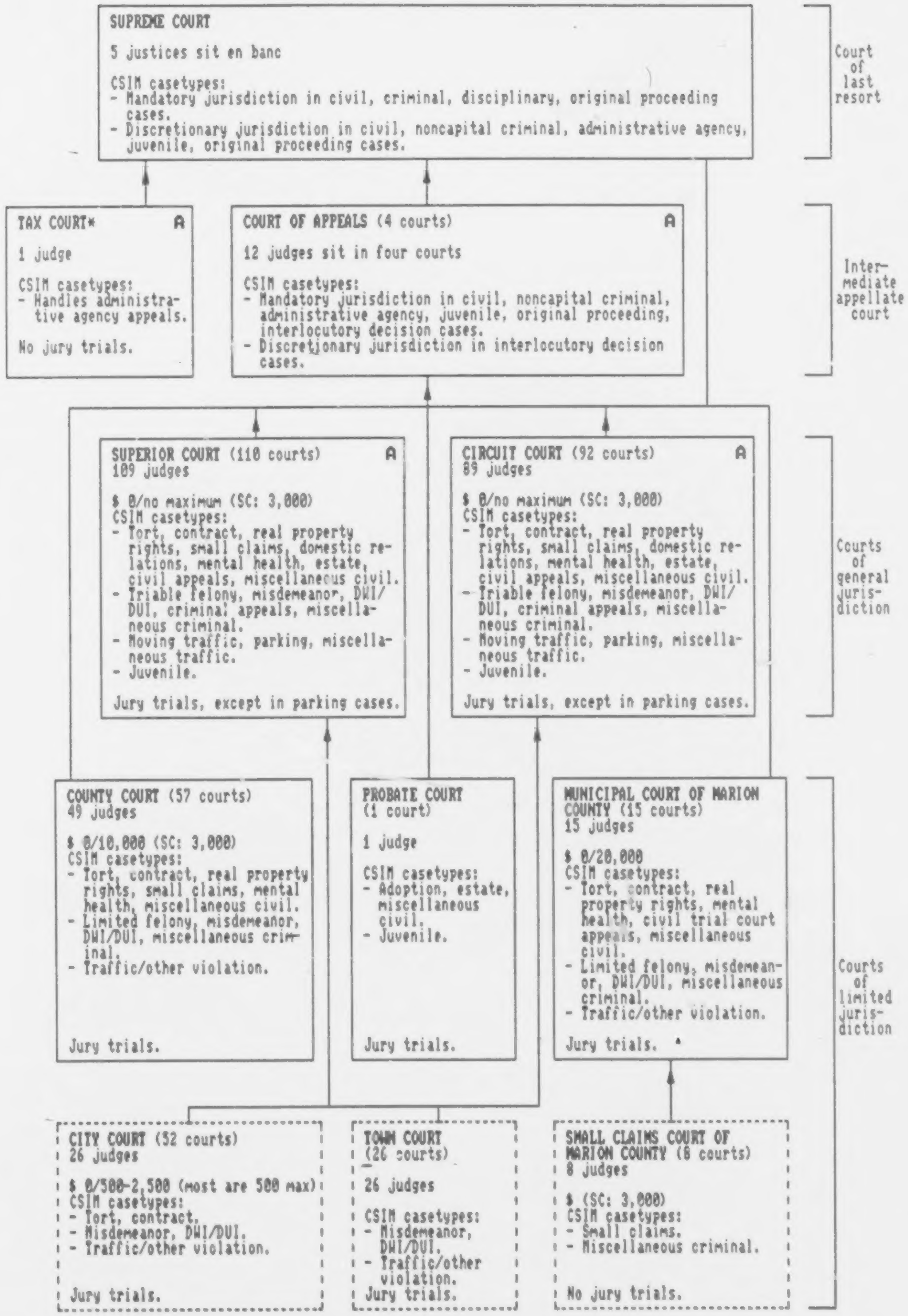
CIRCUIT COURT (22 circuits)
775 authorized circuit and associate circuit judges

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 2,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including administrative agency appeals).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

INDIANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

TAX COURT* A

1 judge

CSIM casetypes:
- Handles administrative agency appeals.

No jury trials.

COURT OF APPEALS (4 courts) A

12 judges sit in four courts

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (110 courts) A
109 judges

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 3,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials, except in parking cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (92 courts) A
89 judges

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 3,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials, except in parking cases.

COUNTY COURT (57 courts)
49 judges

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 3,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, mental health, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
(1 court)

1 judge

CSIM casetypes:
- Adoption, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT OF MARION COUNTY (15 courts)
15 judges

$ 0/20,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

CITY COURT (52 courts)
26 judges

$ 0/500-2,500 (most are 500 max)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

TOWN COURT
(26 courts)

26 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT OF MARION COUNTY (8 courts)
8 judges

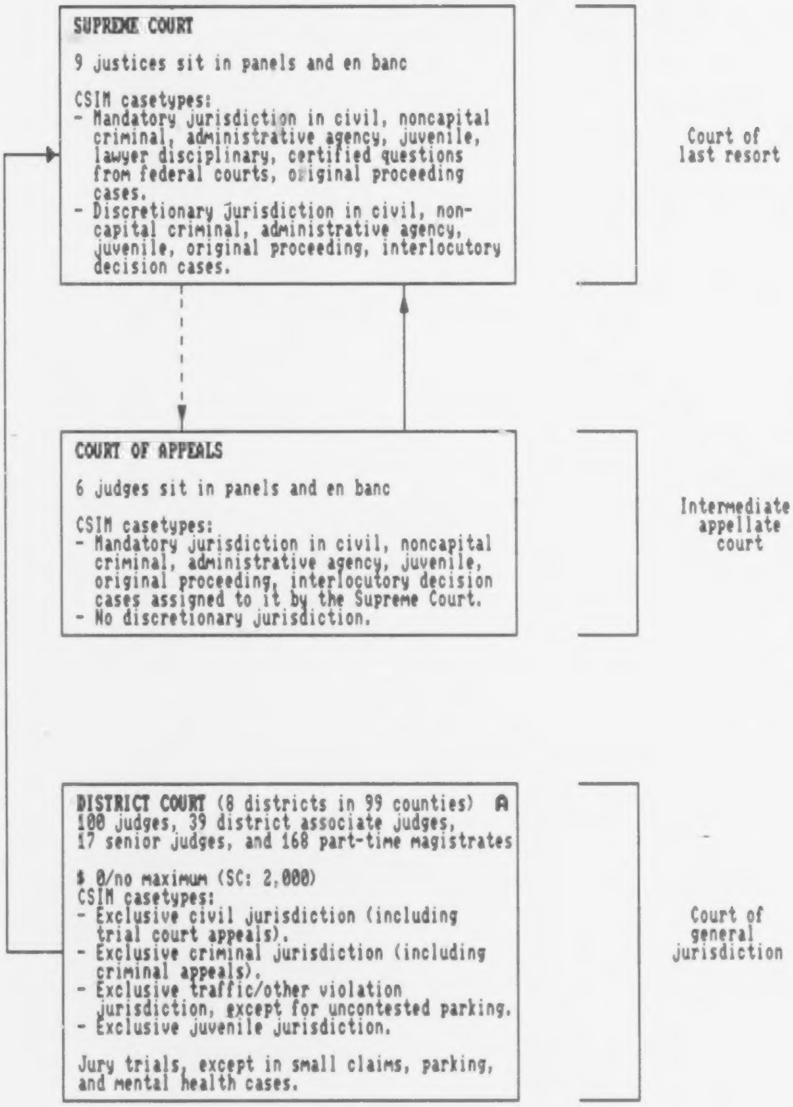
$ (SC: 3,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Small claims.
- Miscellaneous criminal.

No jury trials.

* The Tax Court was established in the begining of 1986.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

IOWA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (8 districts in 99 counties) **A**
100 judges, 39 district associate judges, 17 senior judges, and 168 part-time magistrates

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 2,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including trial court appeals).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for uncontested parking.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

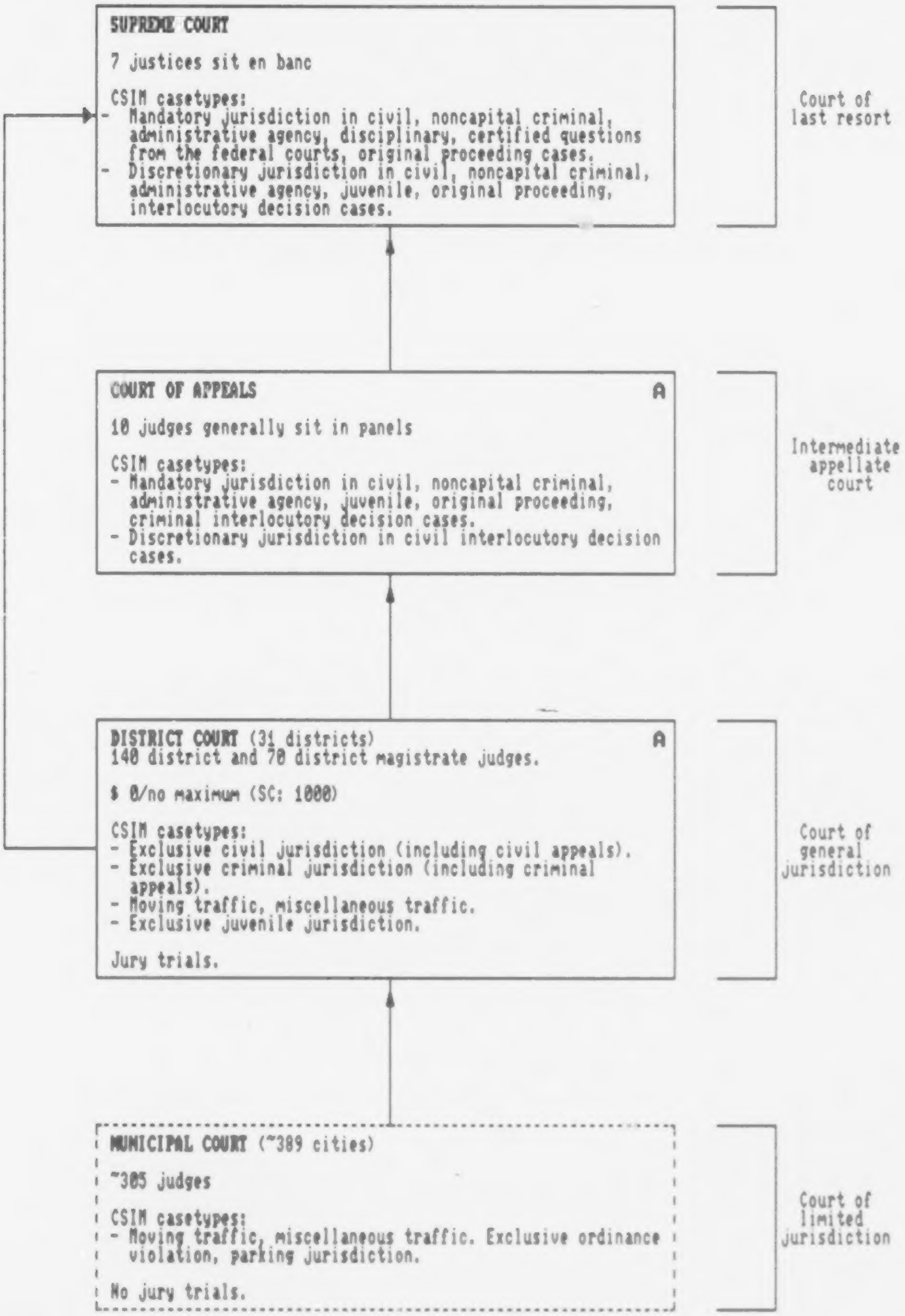
Jury trials, except in small claims, parking, and mental health cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each court.

KANSAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

10 judges generally sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, criminal interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (31 districts) A
140 district and 70 district magistrate judges.

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 1000)

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (~389 cities)

~305 judges

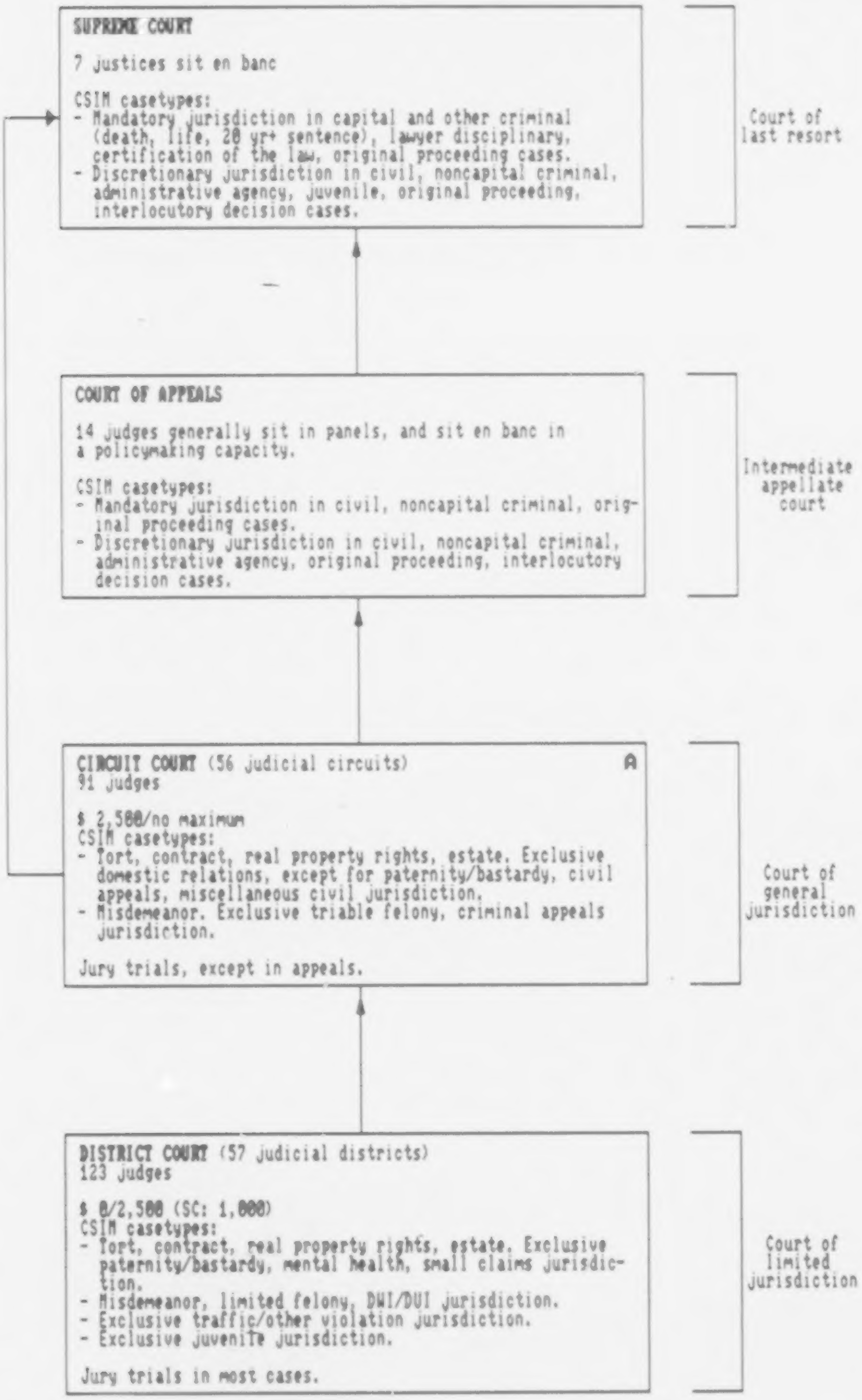
CSIM casetypes:
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation, parking jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

KENTUCKY COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital and other criminal (death, life, 20 yr+ sentence), lawyer disciplinary, certification of the law, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS

14 judges generally sit in panels, and sit en banc in a policymaking capacity.

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (56 judicial circuits) **A**
91 judges

$ 2,500/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate. Exclusive domestic relations, except for paternity/bastardy, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

DISTRICT COURT (57 judicial districts)
123 judges

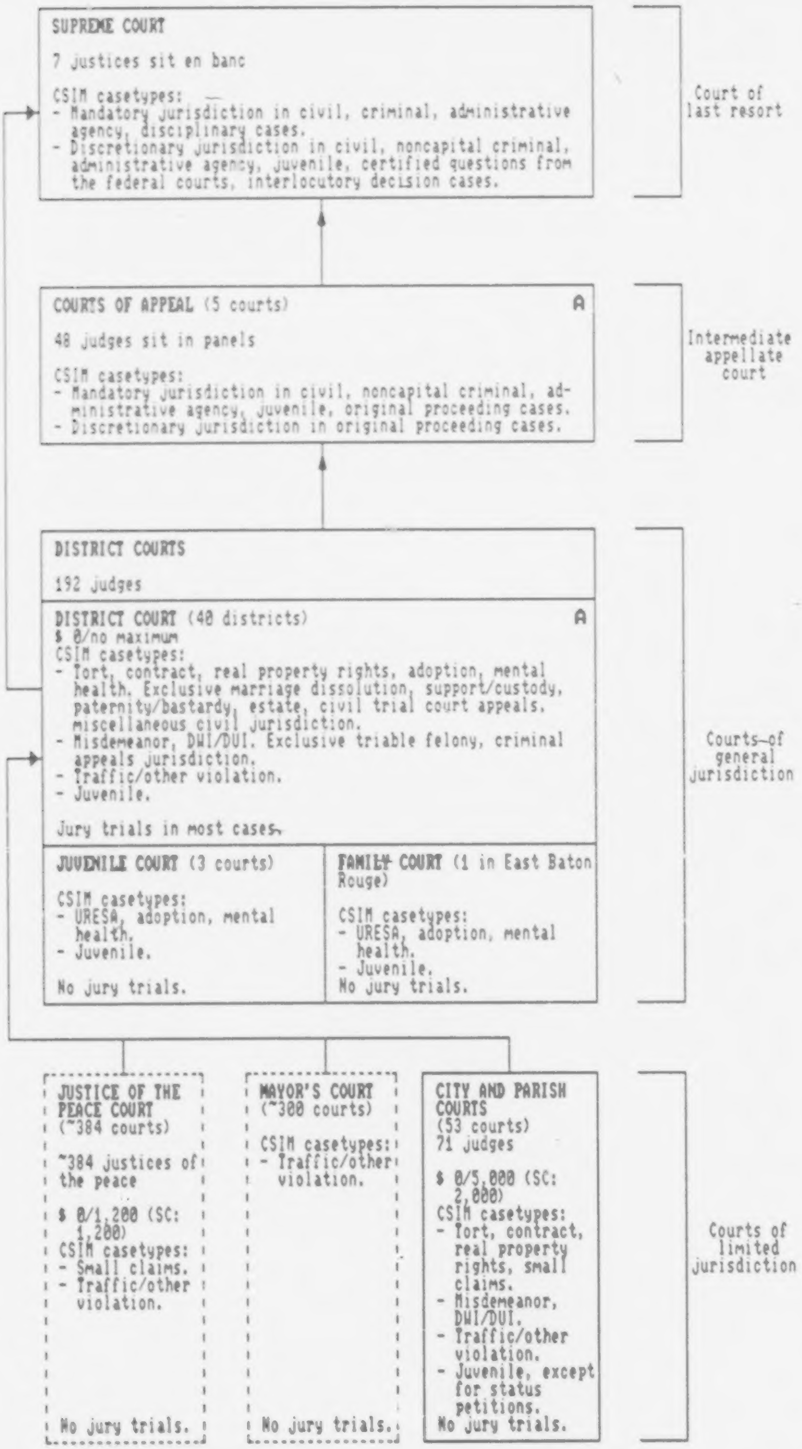
$ 0/2,500 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate. Exclusive paternity/bastardy, mental health, small claims jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, limited felony, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

LOUISIANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from the federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURTS OF APPEAL (5 courts) A

48 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in original proceeding cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURTS

192 judges

DISTRICT COURT (40 districts) A
$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, adoption, mental health. Exclusive marriage dissolution, support/custody, paternity/bastardy, estate, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

JUVENILE COURT (3 courts)

CSIM casetypes:
- URESA, adoption, mental health.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

FAMILY COURT (1 in East Baton Rouge)

CSIM casetypes:
- URESA, adoption, mental health.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT (~384 courts)

~384 justices of the peace

$ 0/1,200 (SC: 1,200)
CSIM casetypes:
- Small claims.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MAYOR'S COURT (~300 courts)

CSIM casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

CITY AND PARISH COURTS
(53 courts)
71 judges

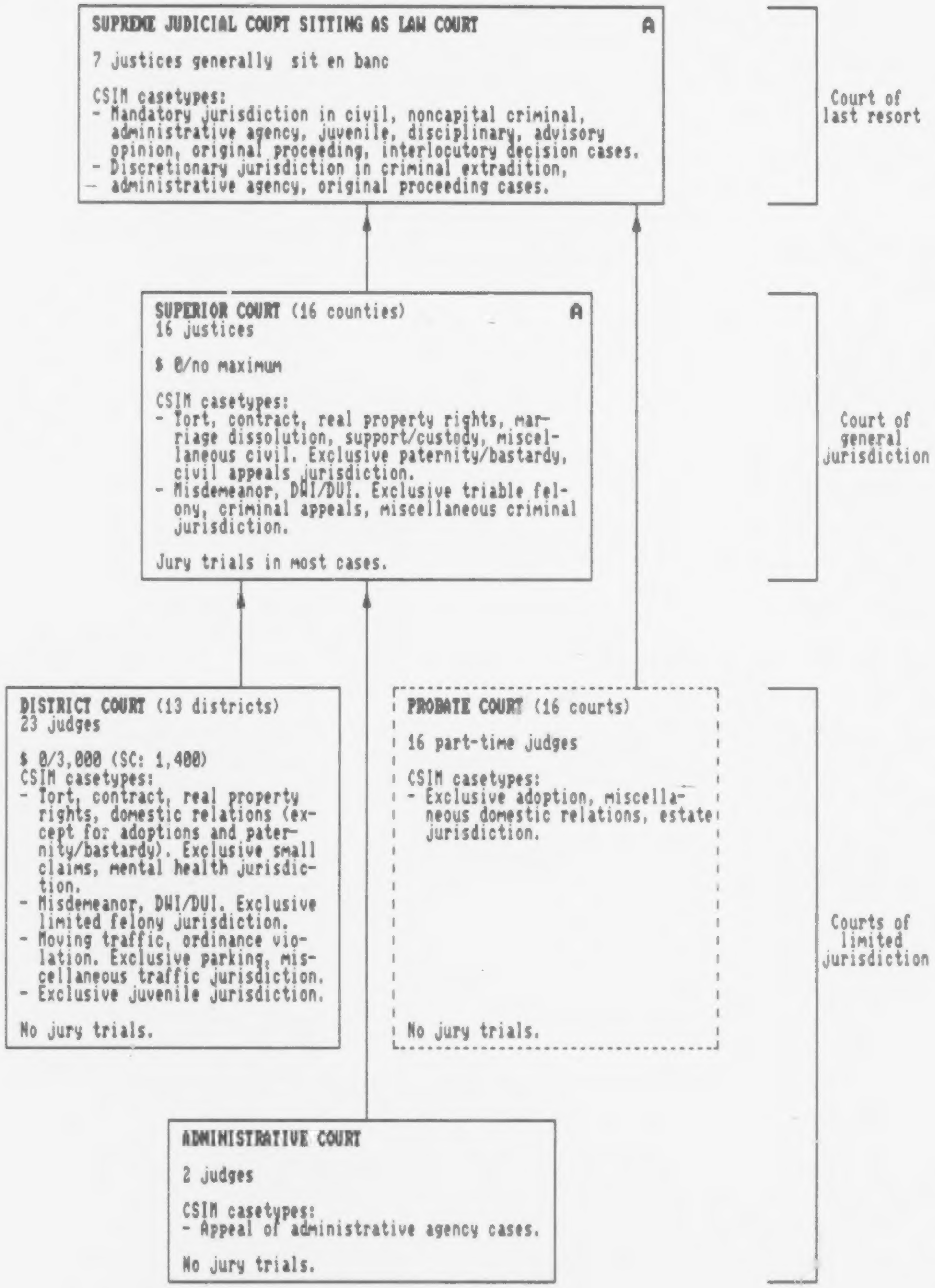
$ 0/5,000 (SC: 2,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile, except for status petitions.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

MAINE COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT SITTING AS LAW COURT A

7 justices generally sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal extradition, administrative agency, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (16 counties) A
16 justices

$ 0/no maximum

CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, marriage dissolution, support/custody, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive paternity/bastardy, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (13 districts)
23 judges

$ 0/3,000 (SC: 1,400)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, domestic relations (except for adoptions and paternity/bastardy). Exclusive small claims, mental health jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, ordinance violation. Exclusive parking, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (16 courts)

16 part-time judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

ADMINISTRATIVE COURT

2 judges

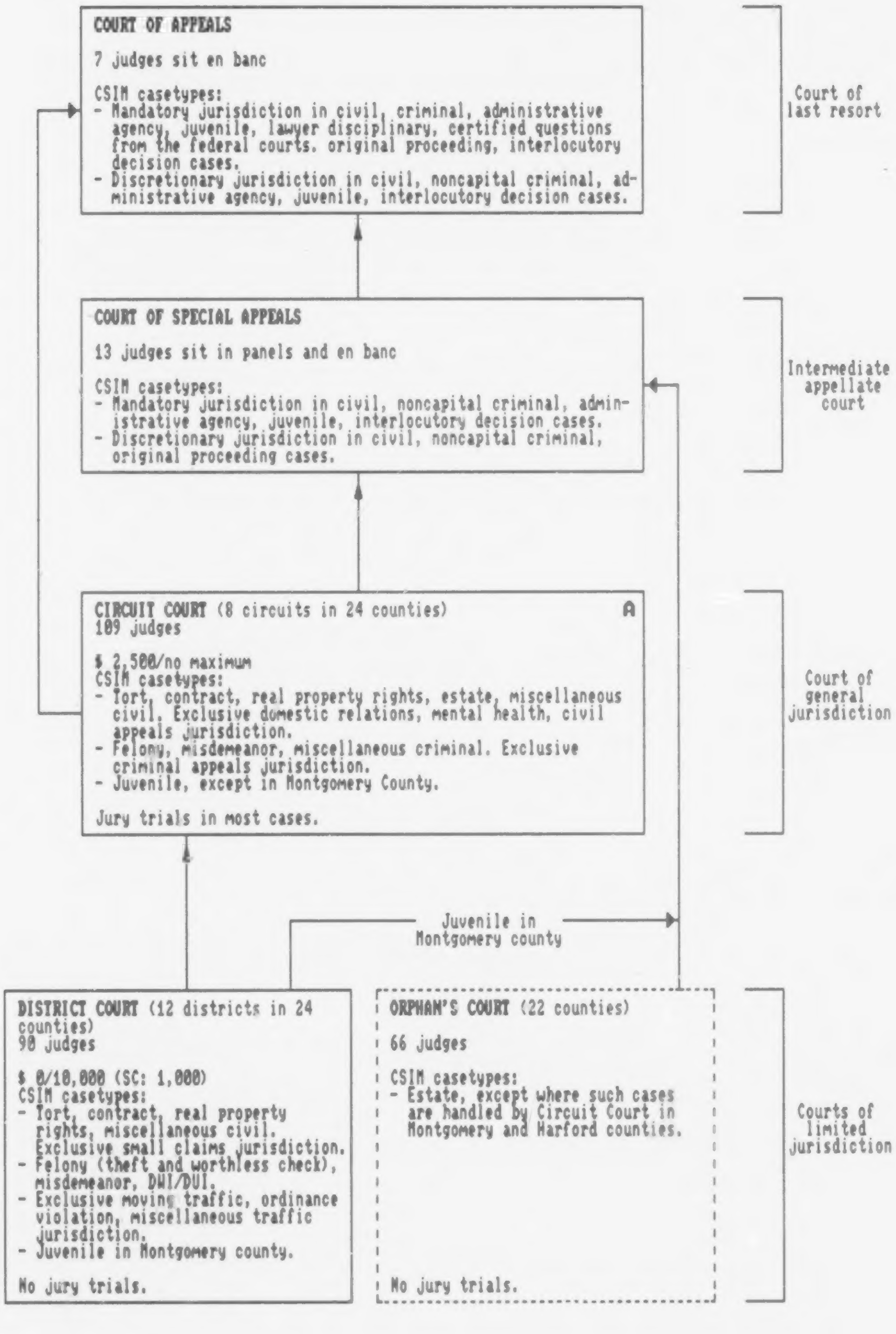
CSIM casetypes:
- Appeal of administrative agency cases.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

MARYLAND COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



COURT OF APPEALS

7 judges sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts. original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS

13 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (8 circuits in 24 counties) A
109 judges

$ 2,500/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Felony, misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile, except in Montgomery County.

Jury trials in most cases.

DISTRICT COURT (12 districts in 24 counties)
90 judges

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Felony (theft and worthless check), misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Exclusive moving traffic, ordinance violation, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Juvenile in Montgomery county.

No jury trials.

ORPHAN'S COURT (22 counties)

66 judges

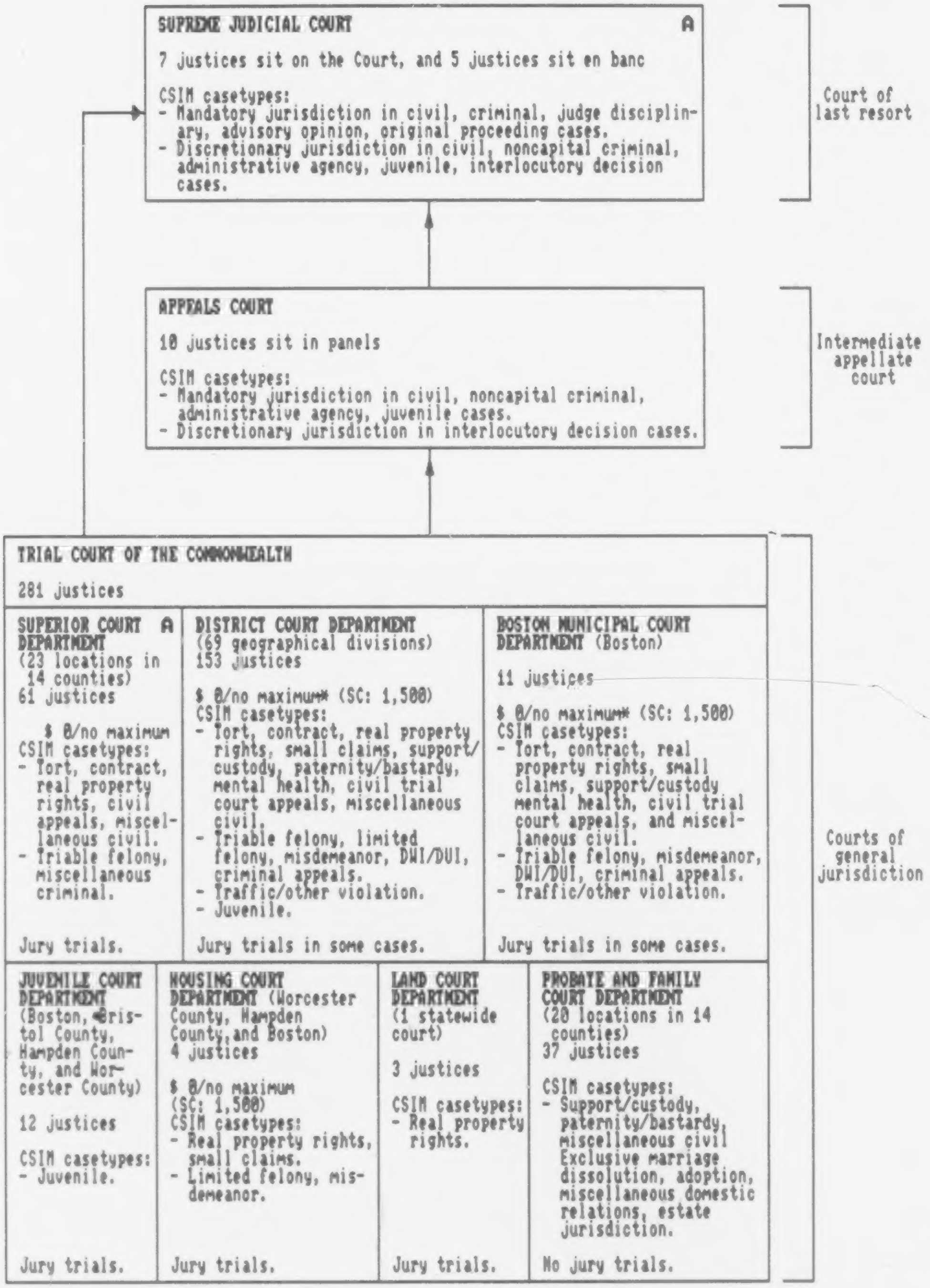
CSIM casetypes:
- Estate, except where such cases are handled by Circuit Court in Montgomery and Harford counties.

No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Juvenile in Montgomery county
Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

MASSACHUSETTS COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT A

7 justices sit on the Court, and 5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, judge disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

APPEALS COURT

10 justices sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

TRIAL COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

281 justices

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT A
(23 locations in 14 counties)
61 justices

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, miscellaneous criminal.

Jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT
(69 geographical divisions)
153 justices

$ 0/no maximum* (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, support/custody, paternity/bastardy, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in some cases.

BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT DEPARTMENT (Boston)

11 justices

$ 0/no maximum* (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, support/custody mental health, civil trial court appeals, and miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some cases.

JUVENILE COURT DEPARTMENT
(Boston, Bristol County, Hampden County, and Worcester County)

12 justices

CSIM casetypes:
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

HOUSING COURT DEPARTMENT (Worcester County, Hampden County, and Boston)
4 justices

$ 0/no maximum
(SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.

Jury trials.

LAND COURT DEPARTMENT
(1 statewide court)

3 justices

CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights.

Jury trials.

PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT
(20 locations in 14 counties)
37 justices

CSIM casetypes:
- Support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous civil Exclusive marriage dissolution, adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate jurisdiction.

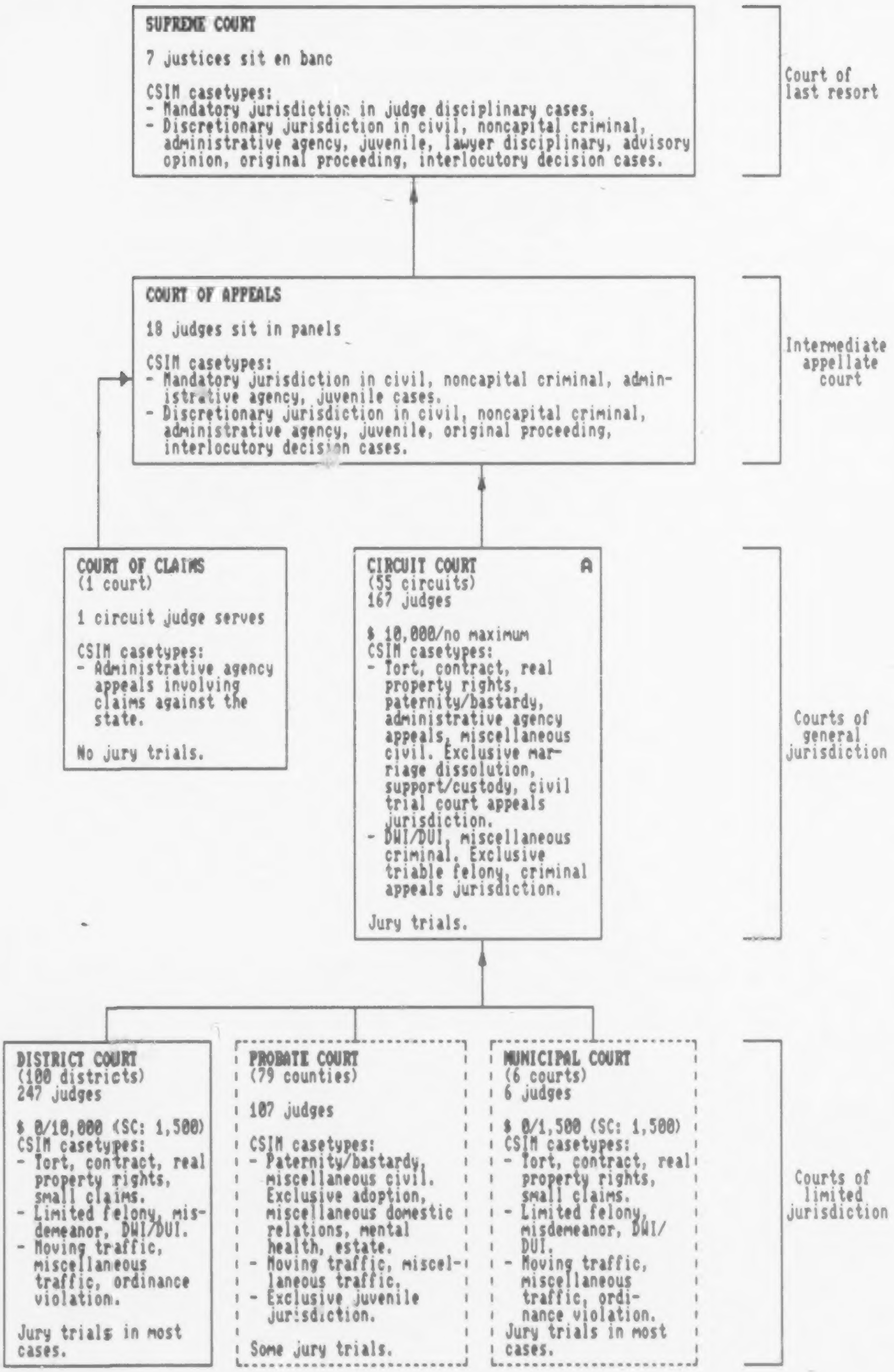
No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

* Limited dollar jurisdiction in tort and contract cases is $ 25,000.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

MICHIGAN COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in judge disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

18 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

COURT OF CLAIMS
(1 court)

1 circuit judge serves

CSIM casetypes:
- Administrative agency appeals involving claims against the state.

No jury trials.

CIRCUIT COURT A
(55 circuits)
167 judges

$ 10,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, paternity/bastardy, administrative agency appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution, support/custody, civil trial court appeals jurisdiction.
- DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT
(100 districts)
247 judges

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

PROBATE COURT
(79 counties)

107 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, estate.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Some jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(6 courts)
6 judges

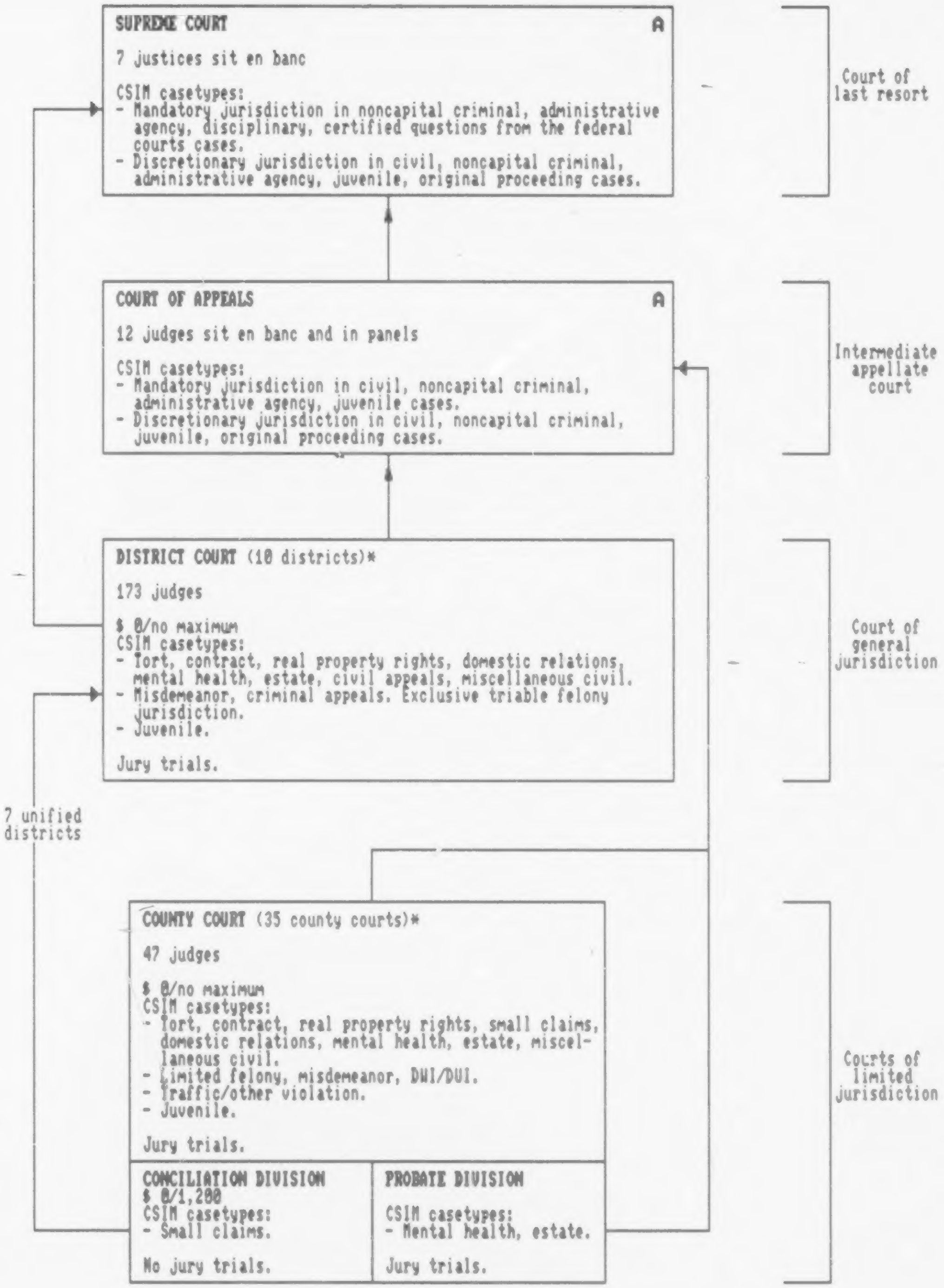
$ 0/1,500 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

MINNESOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

12 judges sit en banc and in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (10 districts)*

173 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, criminal appeals. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

7 unified districts

COUNTY COURT (35 county courts)*

47 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, domestic relations, mental health, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

CONCILIATION DIVISION
$ 0/1,200
CSIM casetypes:
- Small claims.

No jury trials.

PROBATE DIVISION

CSIM casetypes:
- Mental health, estate.

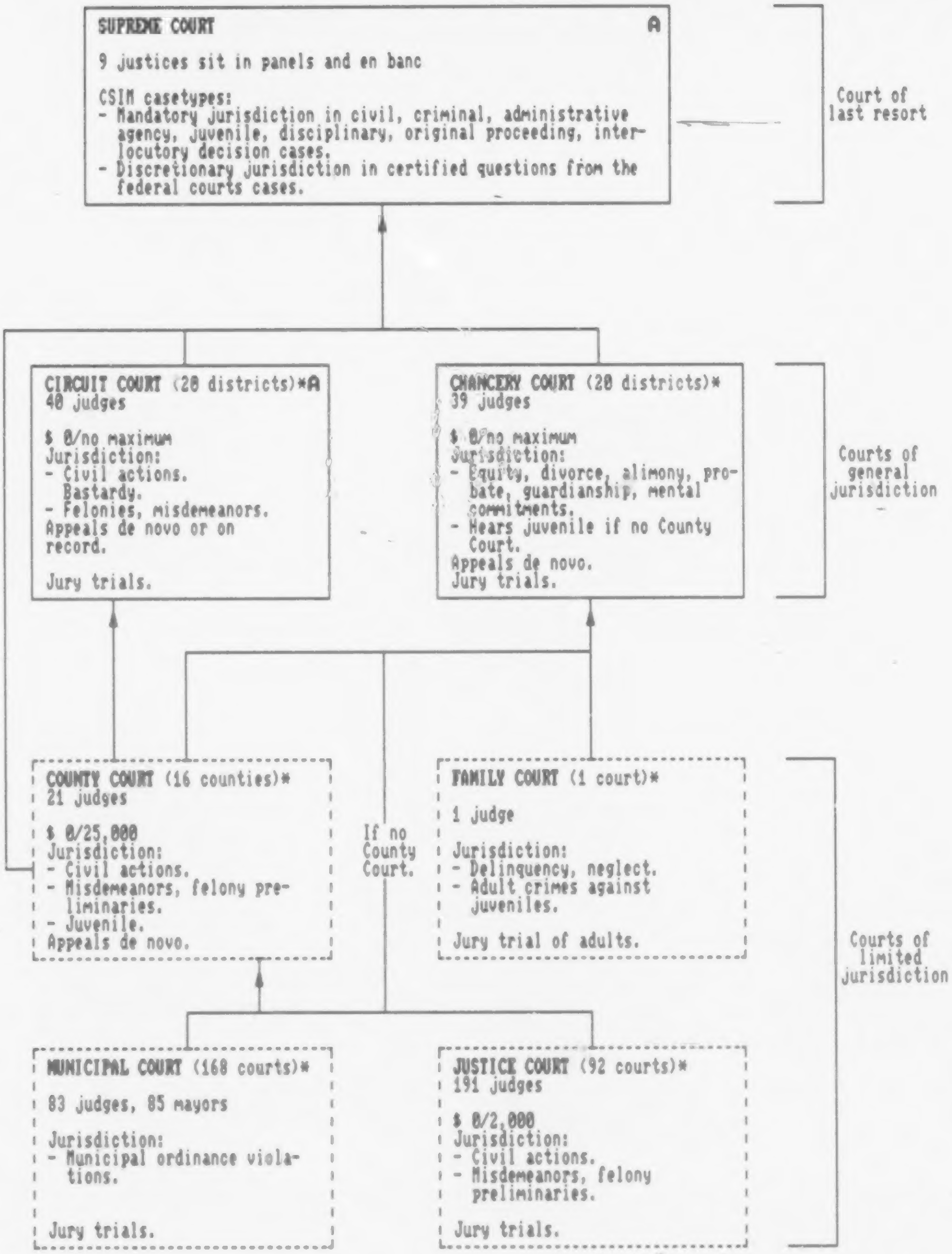
Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* The County Courts of Hennepin and Ramsey counties were unified in 1986. The District and County Courts were consolidated in September, 1987, and the 1986 data were collected in anticipation of this change.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

MISSISSIPPI COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

9 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in certified questions from the federal courts cases.

Court of last resort

CIRCUIT COURT (20 districts)*A
40 judges

$ 0/no maximum
Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions. Bastardy.
- Felonies, misdemeanors.

Appeals de novo or on record.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY COURT (20 districts)*
39 judges

$ 0/no maximum
Jurisdiction:
- Equity, divorce, alimony, probate, guardianship, mental commitments.
- Hears juvenile if no County Court.

Appeals de novo.
Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

COUNTY COURT (16 counties)*
21 judges

$ 0/25,000
Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions.
- Misdemeanors, felony preliminaries.
- Juvenile.

Appeals de novo.

If no County Court.

FAMILY COURT (1 court)*

1 judge

Jurisdiction:
- Delinquency, neglect.
- Adult crimes against juveniles.

Jury trial of adults.

MUNICIPAL COURT (168 courts)*

83 judges, 85 mayors

Jurisdiction:
- Municipal ordinance violations.

Jury trials.

JUSTICE COURT (92 courts)*
191 judges

$ 0/2,000
Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions.
- Misdemeanors, felony preliminaries.

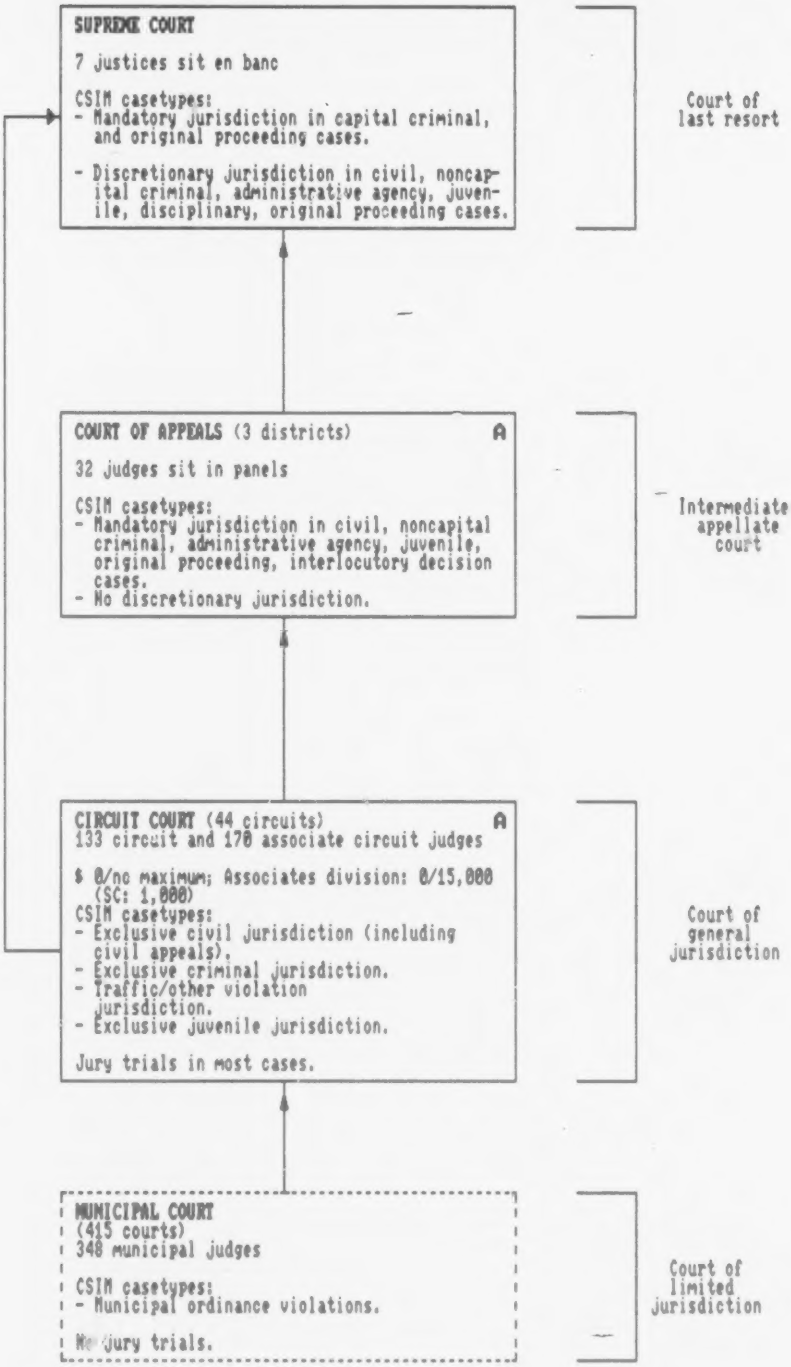
Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* A trial court jurisdiction guide was never completed by Mississippi, and data are unavailable for the trial courts; therefore, the trial court terminology reported in this court system chart does not reflect CSIM Project model reporting terms.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

MISSOURI COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal, and original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (3 districts) A

32 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (44 circuits) A
133 circuit and 170 associate circuit judges

$ 0/no maximum; Associates division: 0/15,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT
(415 courts)
348 municipal judges

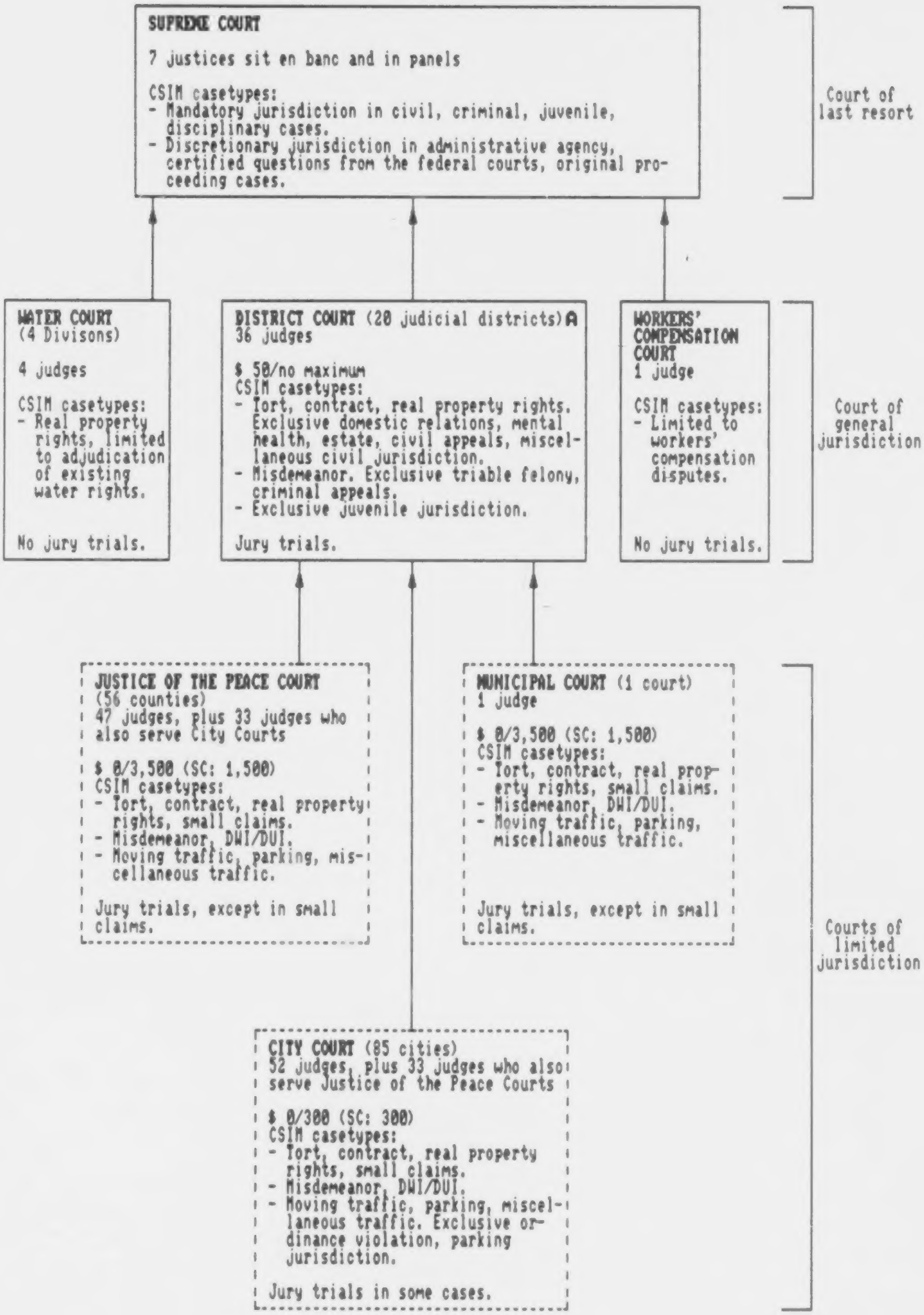
CSIM casetypes:
- Municipal ordinance violations.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

MONTANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

WATER COURT
(4 Divisons)

4 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights, limited to adjudication of existing water rights.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (20 judicial districts) A
36 judges

$ 50/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT
1 judge

CSIM casetypes:
- Limited to workers' compensation disputes.

No jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(56 counties)
47 judges, plus 33 judges who also serve City Courts

$ 0/3,500 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (1 court)
1 judge

$ 0/3,500 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

CITY COURT (85 cities)
52 judges, plus 33 judges who also serve Justice of the Peace Courts

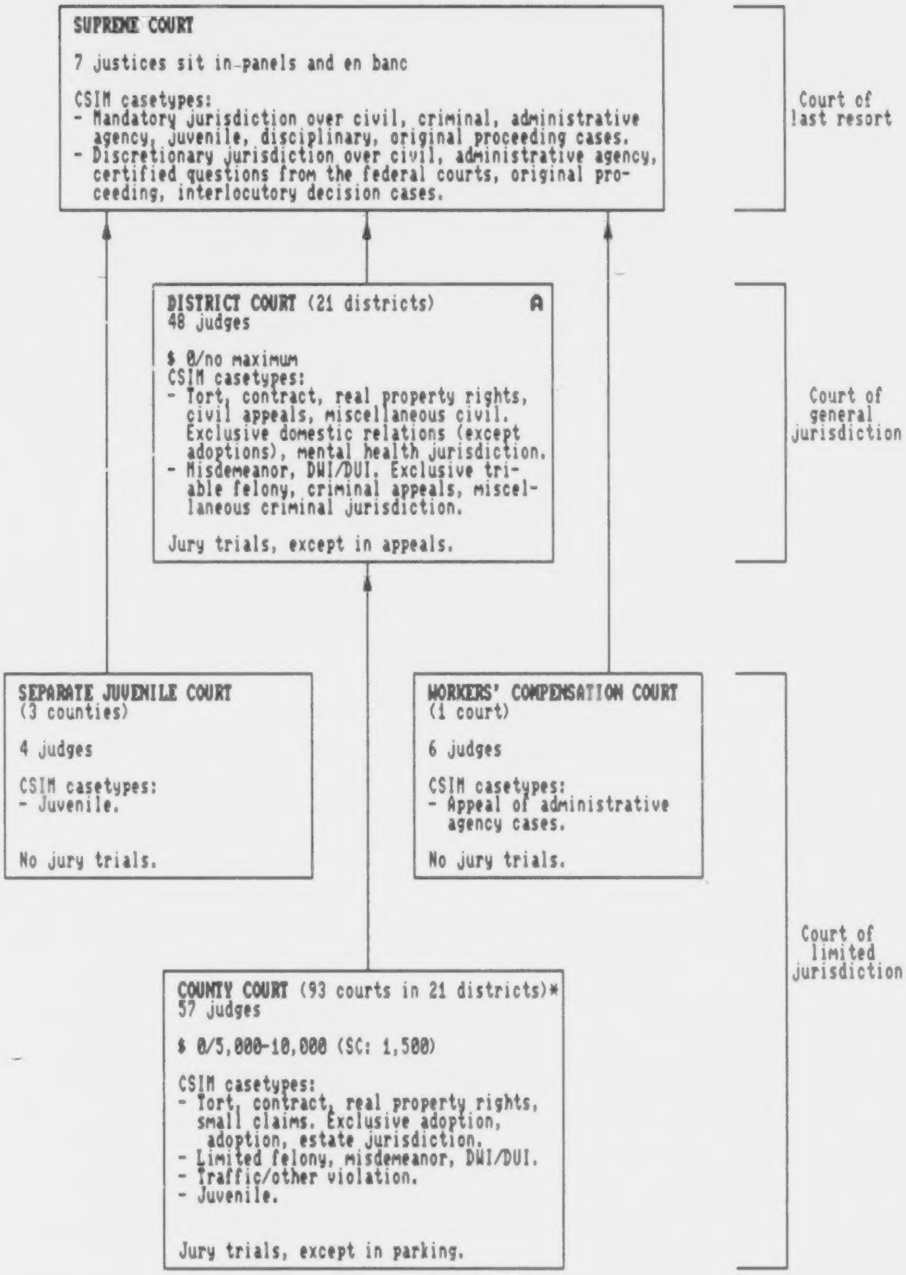
$ 0/300 (SC: 300)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation, parking jurisdiction.

Jury trials in some cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

NEBRASKA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction over civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction over civil, administrative agency, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (21 districts) A
48 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations (except adoptions), mental health jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

SEPARATE JUVENILE COURT
(3 counties)

4 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT
(1 court)

6 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Appeal of administrative agency cases.

No jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (93 courts in 21 districts)*
57 judges

$ 0/5,000-10,000 (SC: 1,500)

CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims. Exclusive adoption, adoption, estate jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

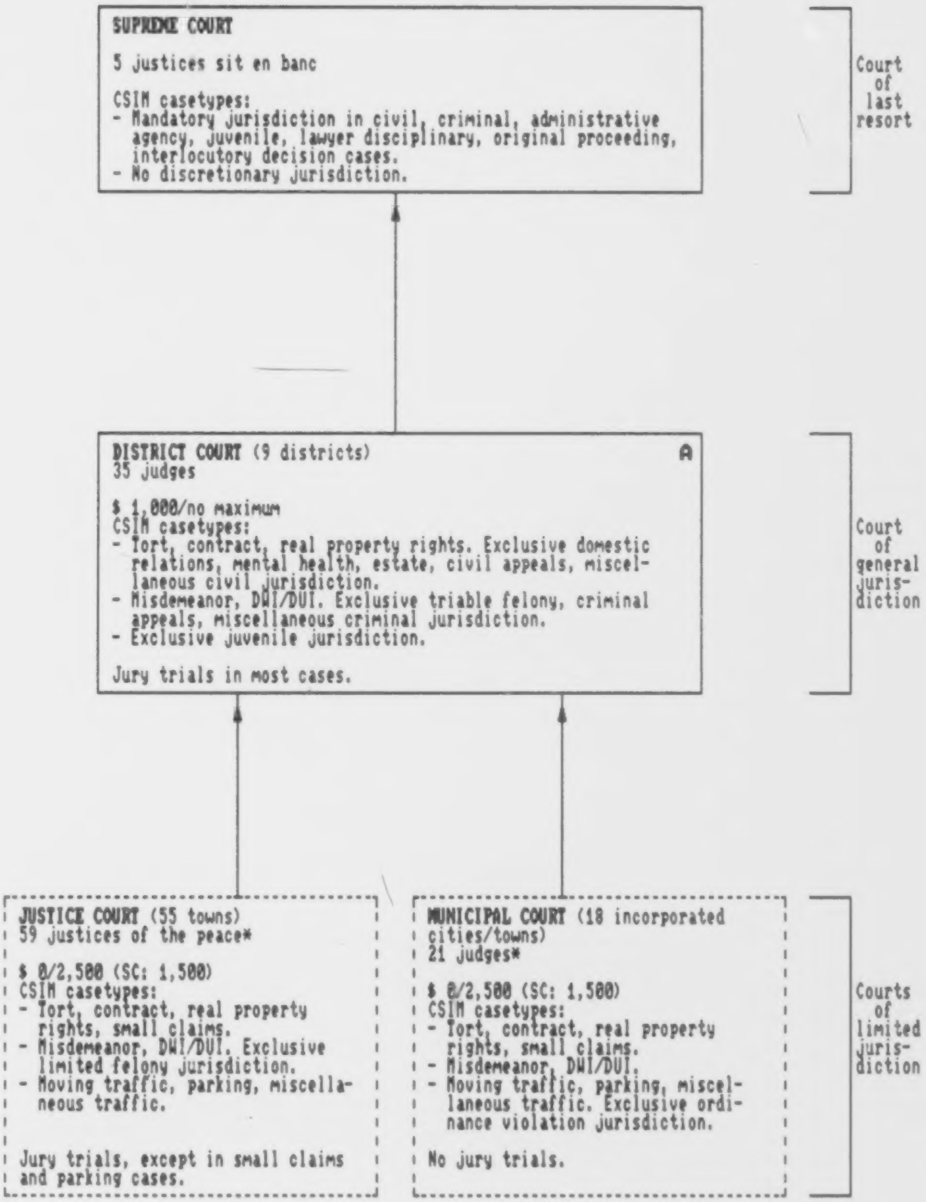
Jury trials, except in parking.

Court of limited jurisdiction

* In July 1985, the Municipal Courts were merged with the County Courts.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

NEVADA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (9 districts) A
35 judges

$ 1,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE COURT (55 towns)
59 justices of the peace*

$ 0/2,500 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims and parking cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (18 incorporated cities/towns)
21 judges*

$ 0/2,500 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

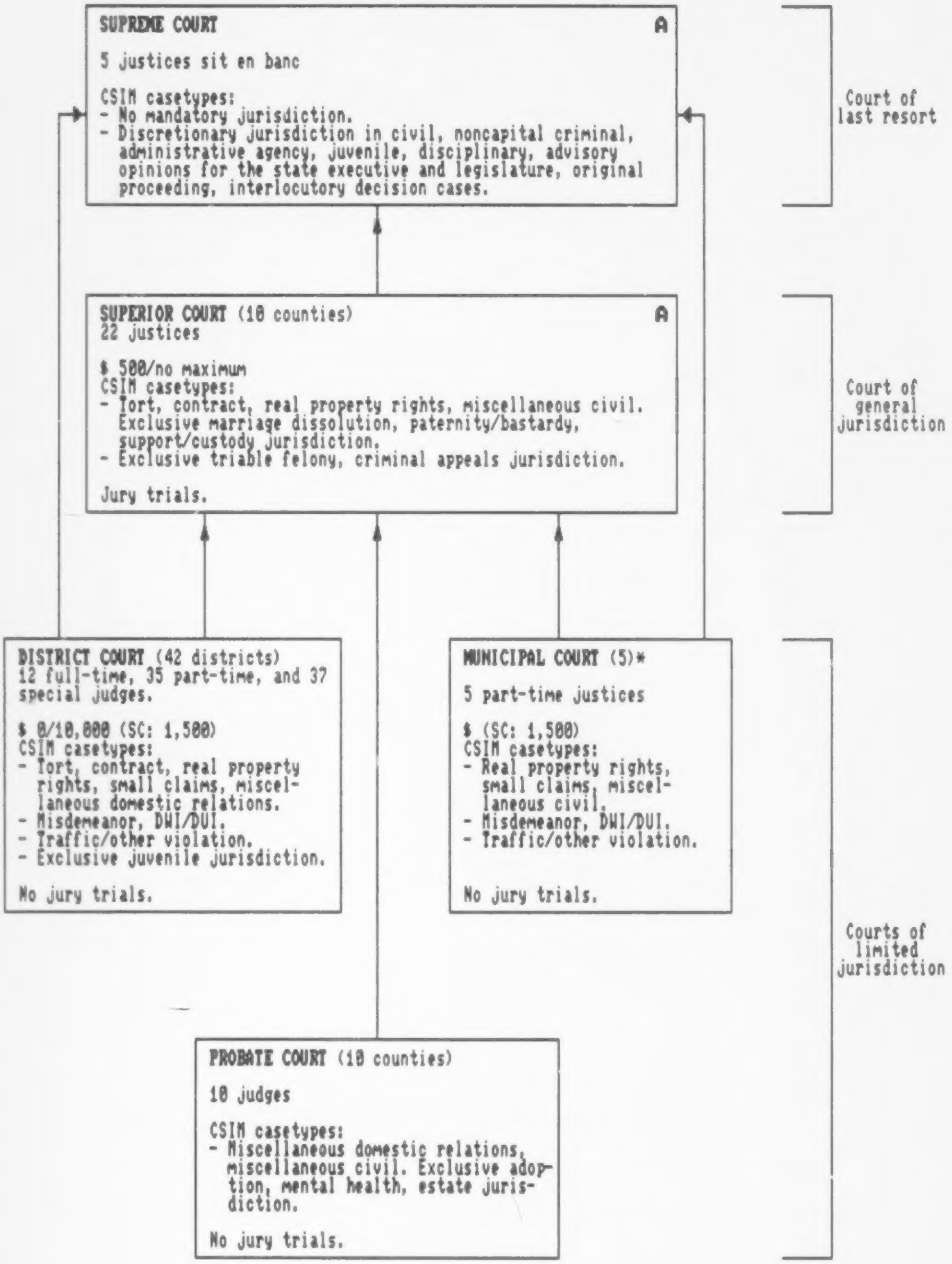
No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* Nine Justices of the Peace also serve as Municipal Court judges.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

NEW HAMPSHIRE COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinions for the state executive and legislature, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (10 counties) A
22 justices

$ 500/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution, paternity/bastardy, support/custody jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (42 districts)
12 full-time, 35 part-time, and 37 special judges.

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (5)*

5 part-time justices

$ (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights, small claims, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (10 counties)

10 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, mental health, estate jurisdiction.

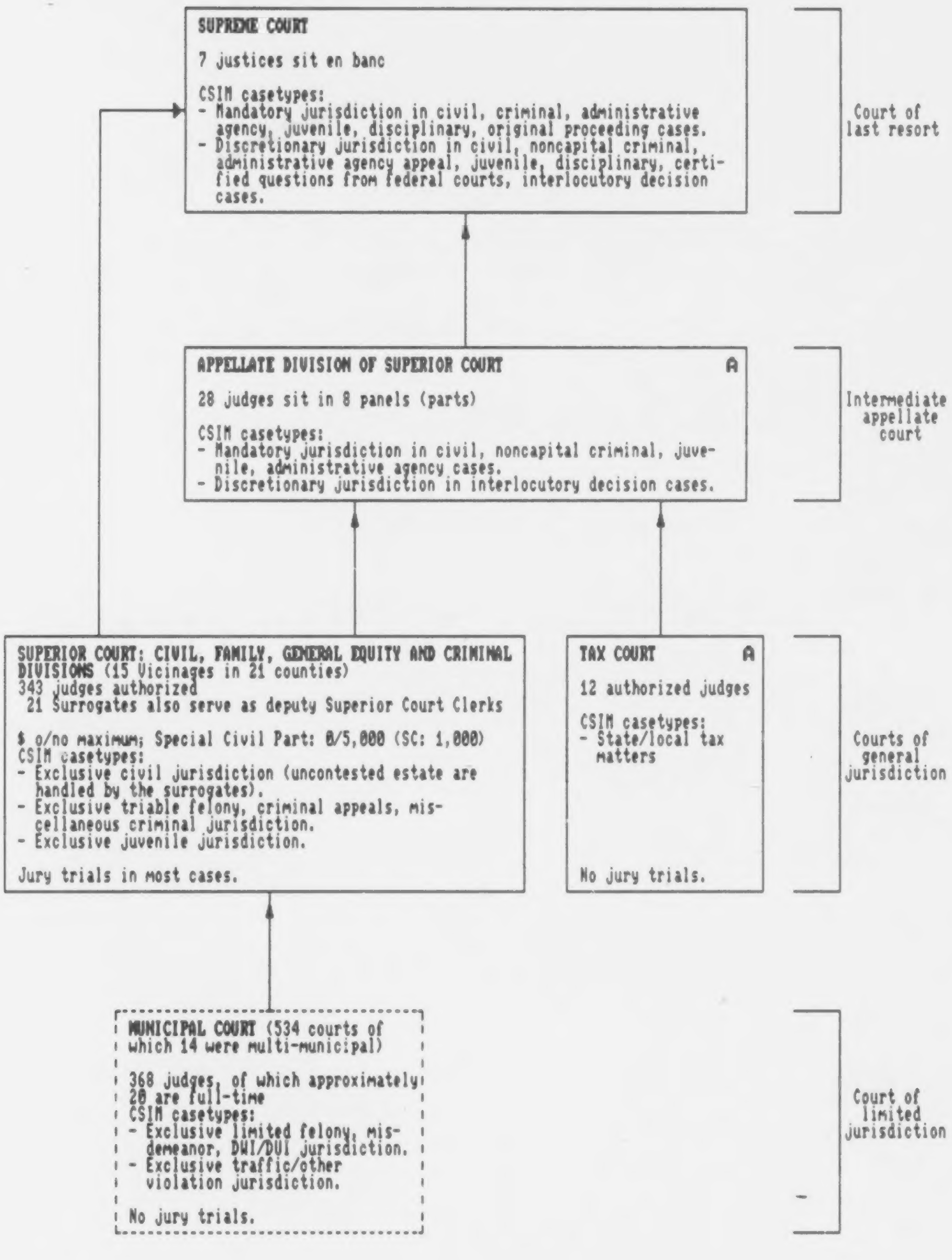
No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* The Municipal Court is being phased out (by statute) upon retirement and/or resignation of sitting justices.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

NEW JERSEY COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency appeal, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

APPELLATE DIVISION OF SUPERIOR COURT A

28 judges sit in 8 panels (parts)

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, administrative agency cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT: CIVIL, FAMILY, GENERAL EQUITY AND CRIMINAL DIVISIONS (15 Vicinages in 21 counties)
343 judges authorized
21 Surrogates also serve as deputy Superior Court Clerks

$ 0/no maximum; Special Civil Part: 0/5,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (uncontested estate are handled by the surrogates).
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

TAX COURT A

12 authorized judges

CSIM casetypes:
- State/local tax matters

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (534 courts of which 14 were multi-municipal)

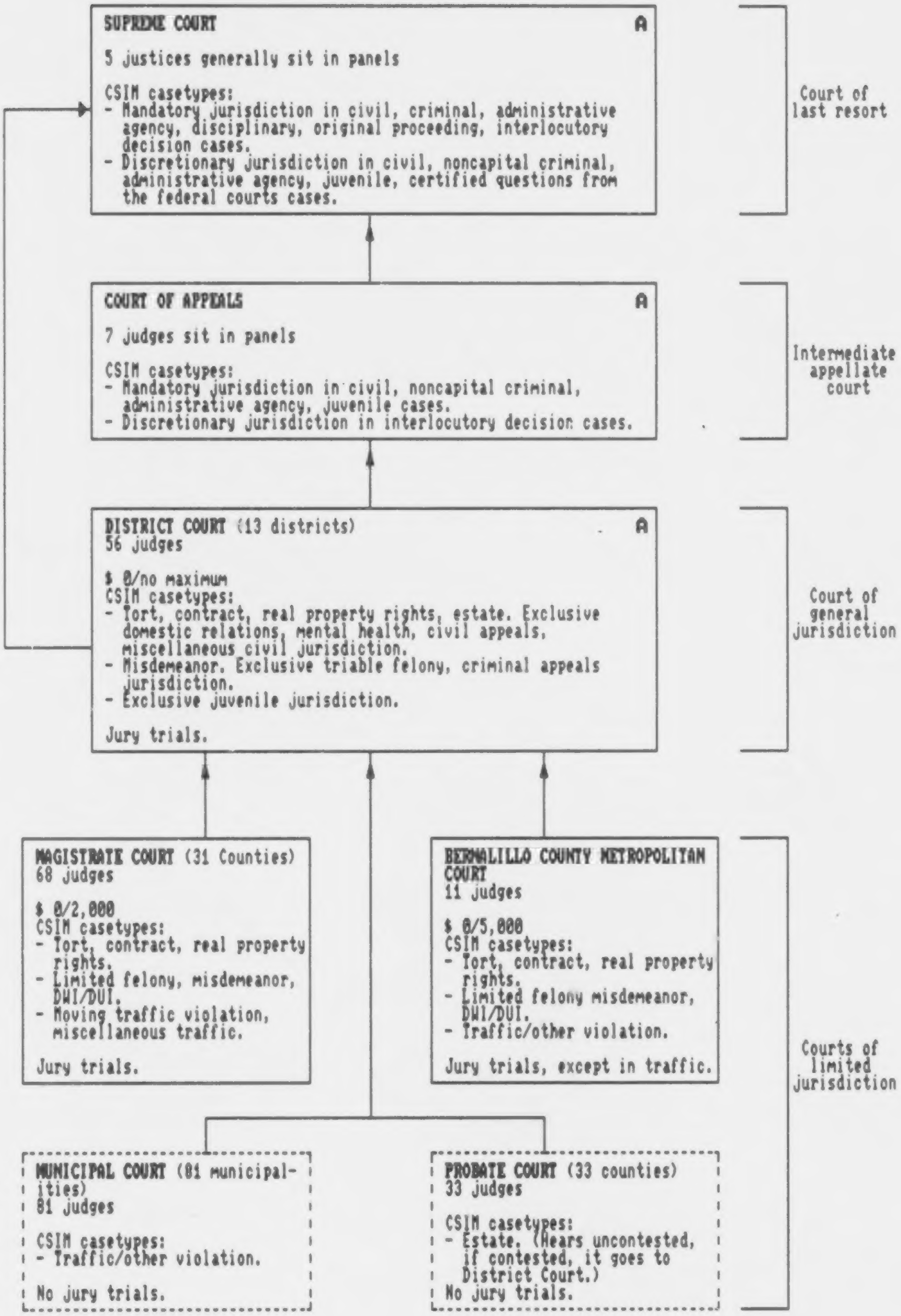
368 judges, of which approximately 20 are full-time
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

NEW MEXICO COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices generally sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from the federal courts cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

7 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (13 districts) A
56 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MAGISTRATE COURT (31 Counties)
68 judges

$ 0/2,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic violation, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

BERNALILLO COUNTY METROPOLITAN COURT
11 judges

$ 0/5,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights.
- Limited felony misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except in traffic.

MUNICIPAL COURT (81 municipalities)
81 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (33 counties)
33 judges

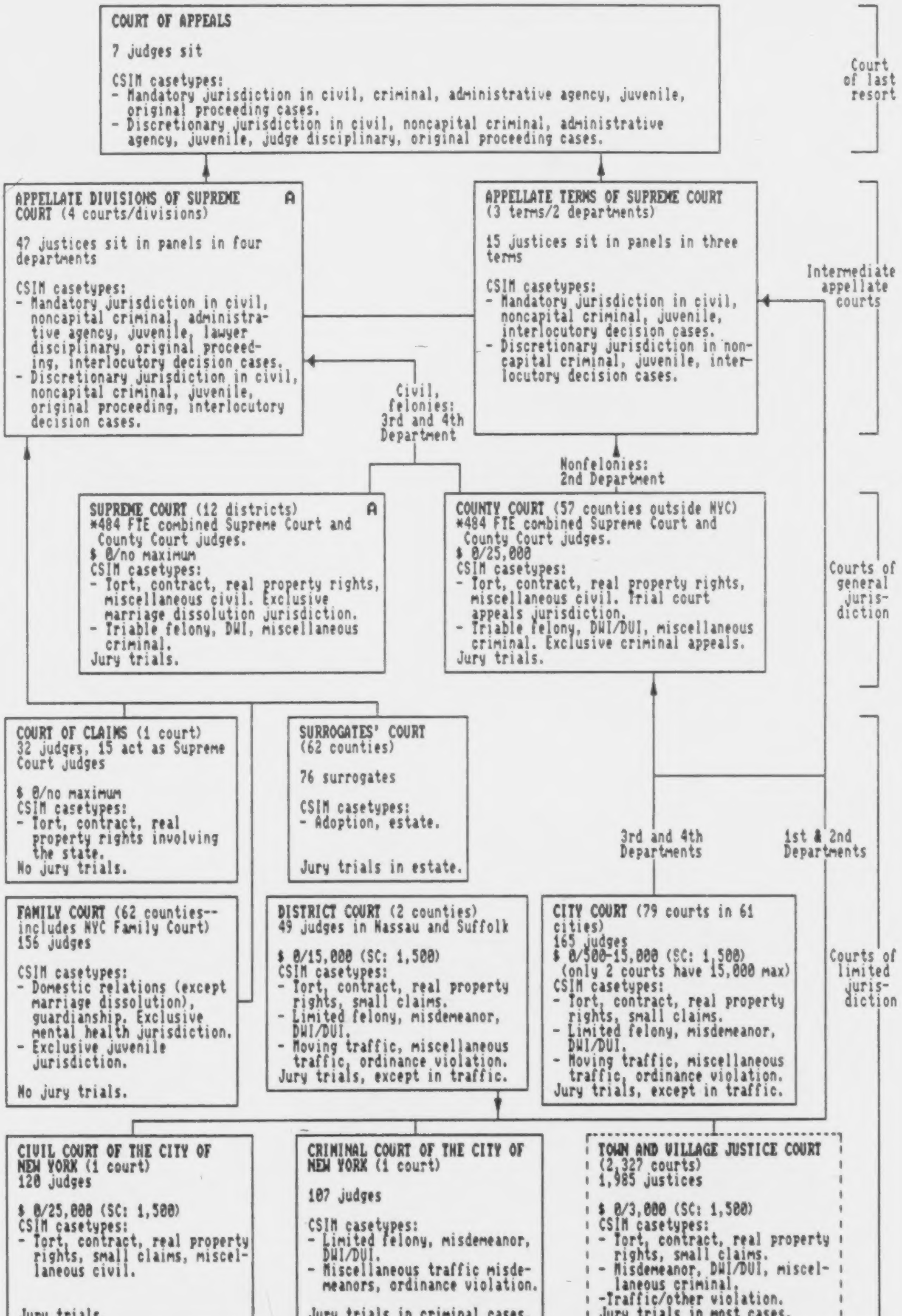
CSIM casetypes:
- Estate. (Hears uncontested, if contested, it goes to District Court.)

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

NEW YORK COURT STRUCTURE, 1986


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate courts
A
A
Civil, felonies: 3rd and 4th Department
Nonfelonies: 2nd Department
Courts of general jurisdiction
3rd and 4th Departments
1st & 2nd Departments
Courts of limited jurisdiction

COURT OF APPEALS

7 judges sit

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, original proceeding cases.

APPELLATE DIVISIONS OF SUPREME COURT (4 courts/divisions)

47 justices sit in panels in four departments

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

APPELLATE TERMS OF SUPREME COURT (3 terms/2 departments)

15 justices sit in panels in three terms

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

SUPREME COURT (12 districts)
*484 FTE combined Supreme Court and County Court judges.
$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, DWI, miscellaneous criminal.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (57 counties outside NYC)
*484 FTE combined Supreme Court and County Court judges.
$ 0/25,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Trial court appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive criminal appeals.

Jury trials.

COURT OF CLAIMS (1 court)
32 judges, 15 act as Supreme Court judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights involving the state.

No jury trials.

SURROGATES' COURT
(62 counties)

76 surrogates

CSIM casetypes:
- Adoption, estate.

Jury trials in estate.

FAMILY COURT (62 counties--includes NYC Family Court)
156 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Domestic relations (except marriage dissolution), guardianship. Exclusive mental health jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (2 counties)
49 judges in Nassau and Suffolk

$ 0/15,000 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials, except in traffic.

CITY COURT (79 courts in 61 cities)
165 judges
$ 0/500-15,000 (SC: 1,500)
(only 2 courts have 15,000 max)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials, except in traffic.

CIVIL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (1 court)
120 judges

$ 0/25,000 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, miscellaneous civil.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (1 court)

107 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Miscellaneous traffic misdemeanors, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in criminal cases.

TOWN AND VILLAGE JUSTICE COURT
(2,327 courts)
1,985 justices

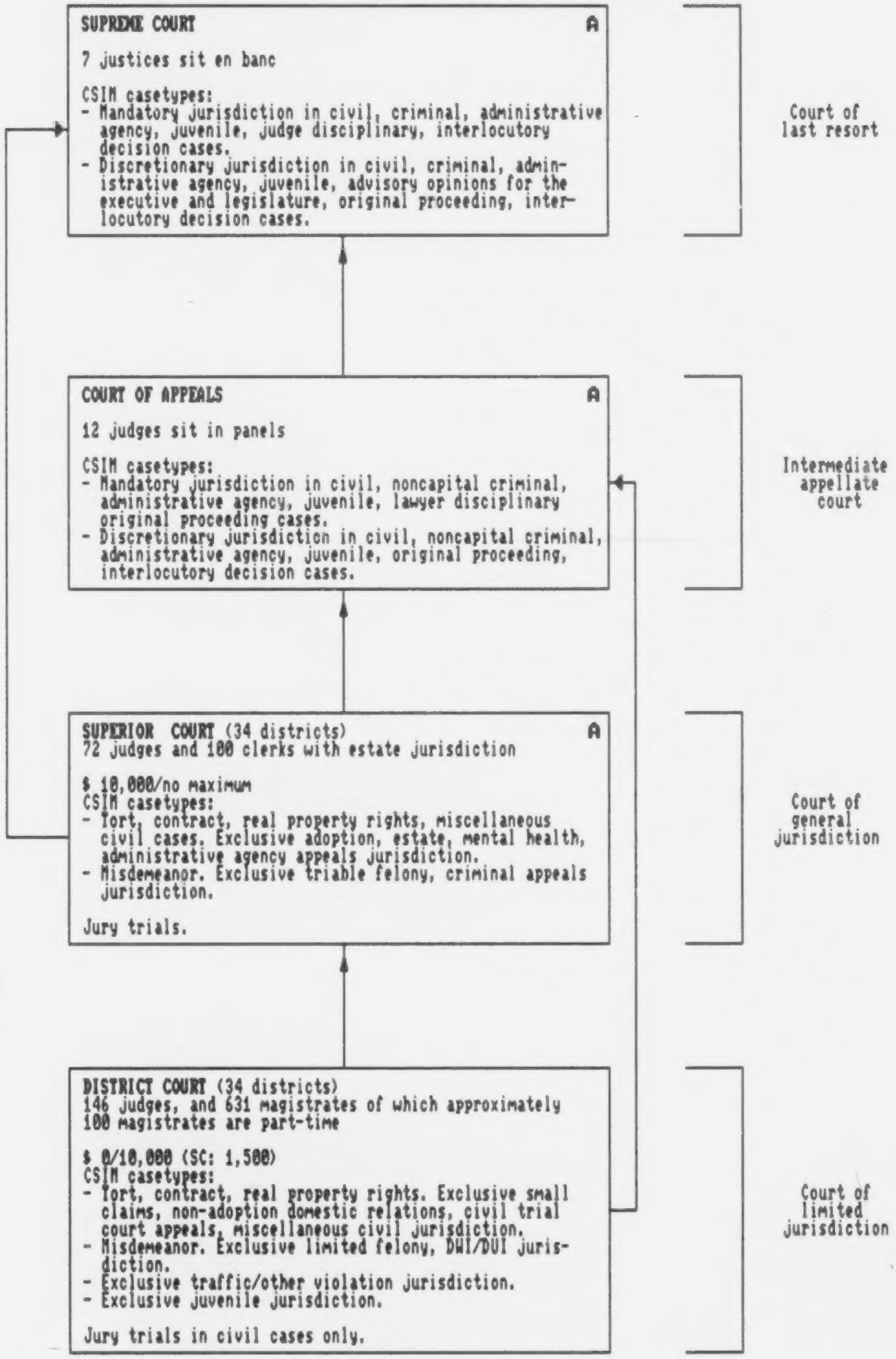
$ 0/3,000 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

* Includes Acting Supreme Court Justices assigned administratively. Increase due to manner of reporting.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

NORTH CAROLINA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinions for the executive and legislature, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

12 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (34 districts) A
72 judges and 100 clerks with estate jurisdiction

$ 10,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil cases. Exclusive adoption, estate, mental health, administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (34 districts)
146 judges, and 631 magistrates of which approximately 100 magistrates are part-time

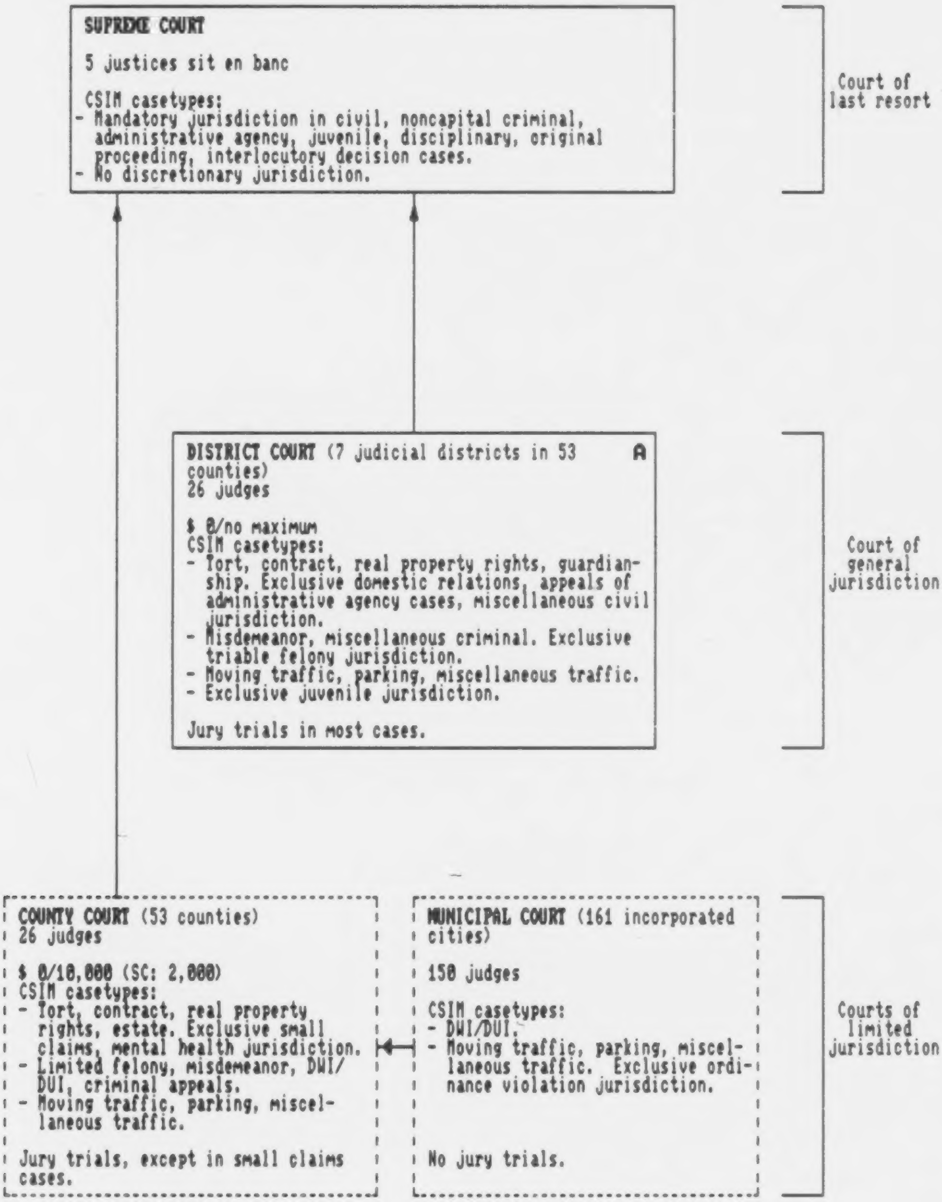
$ 0/10,000 (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive small claims, non-adoption domestic relations, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive limited felony, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in civil cases only.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

NORTH DAKOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (7 judicial districts in 53 counties) **A**
26 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, guardianship. Exclusive domestic relations, appeals of administrative agency cases, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

COUNTY COURT (53 counties)
26 judges

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 2,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate. Exclusive small claims, mental health jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (161 incorporated cities)

150 judges

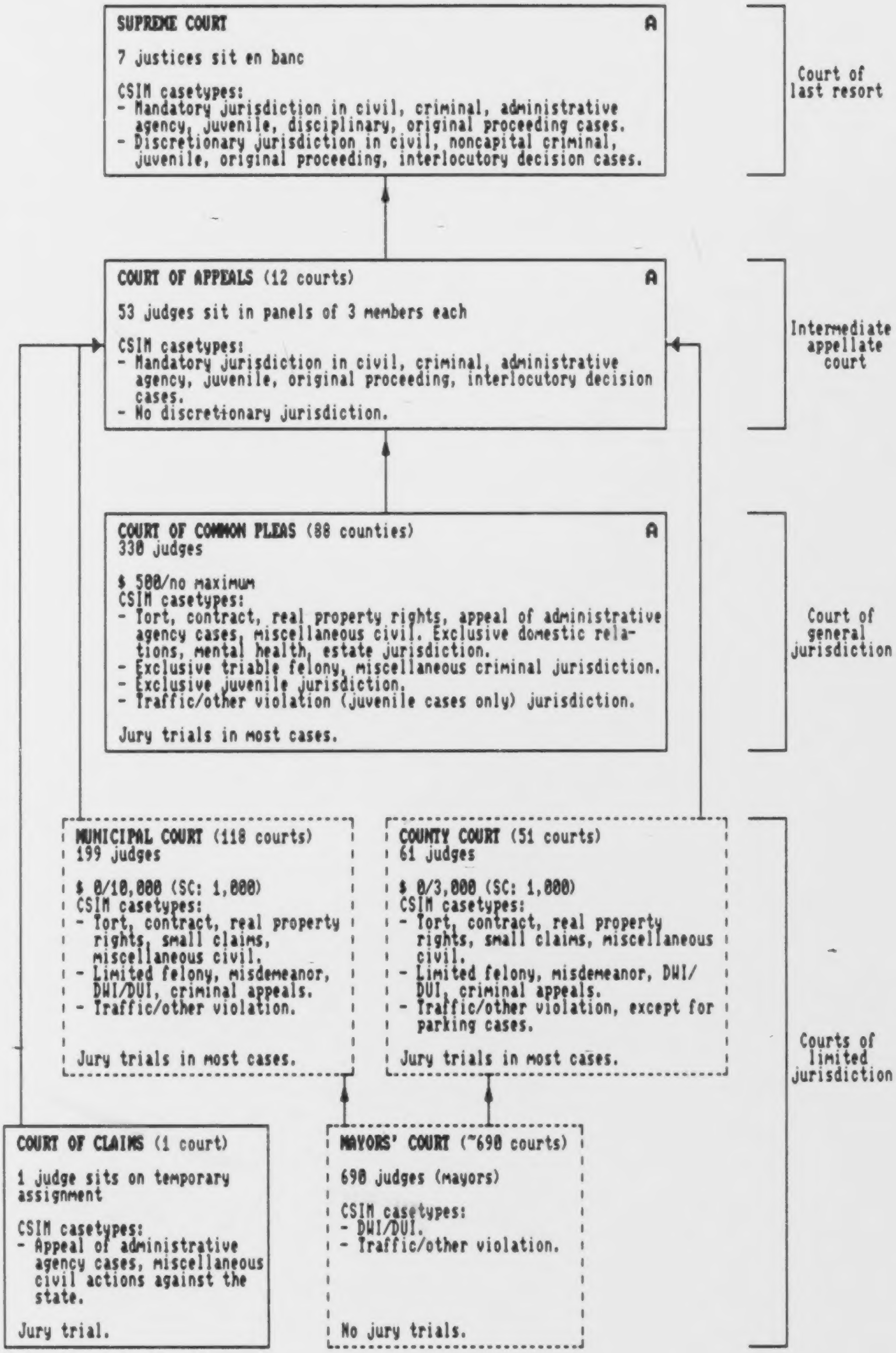
CSIM casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

OHIO COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (12 courts) A

53 judges sit in panels of 3 members each

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (88 counties) A
330 judges

$ 500/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, appeal of administrative agency cases, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation (juvenile cases only) jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (118 courts)
199 judges

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

COUNTY COURT (51 courts)
61 judges

$ 0/3,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation, except for parking cases.

Jury trials in most cases.

COURT OF CLAIMS (1 court)

1 judge sits on temporary assignment

CSIM casetypes:
- Appeal of administrative agency cases, miscellaneous civil actions against the state.

Jury trial.

MAYORS' COURT (~690 courts)

690 judges (mayors)

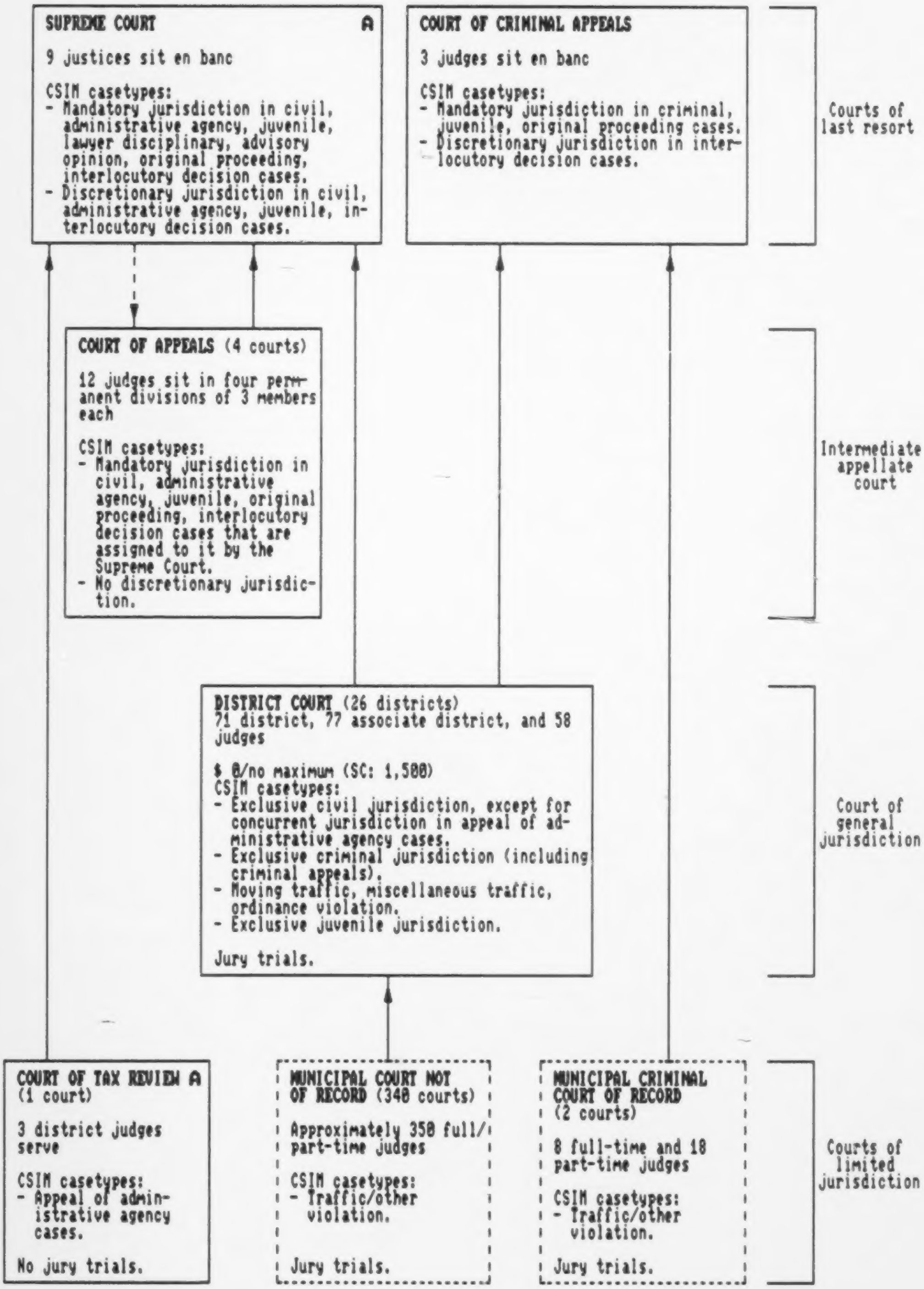
CSIM casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

OKLAHOMA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

9 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Courts of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (4 courts)

12 judges sit in four permanent divisions of 3 members each

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases that are assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (26 districts)
71 district, 77 associate district, and 58 judges

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 1,500)
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction, except for concurrent jurisdiction in appeal of administrative agency cases.
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

COURT OF TAX REVIEW A
(1 court)

3 district judges serve

CSIM casetypes:
- Appeal of administrative agency cases.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT NOT OF RECORD (340 courts)

Approximately 350 full/part-time judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL CRIMINAL COURT OF RECORD
(2 courts)

8 full-time and 18 part-time judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

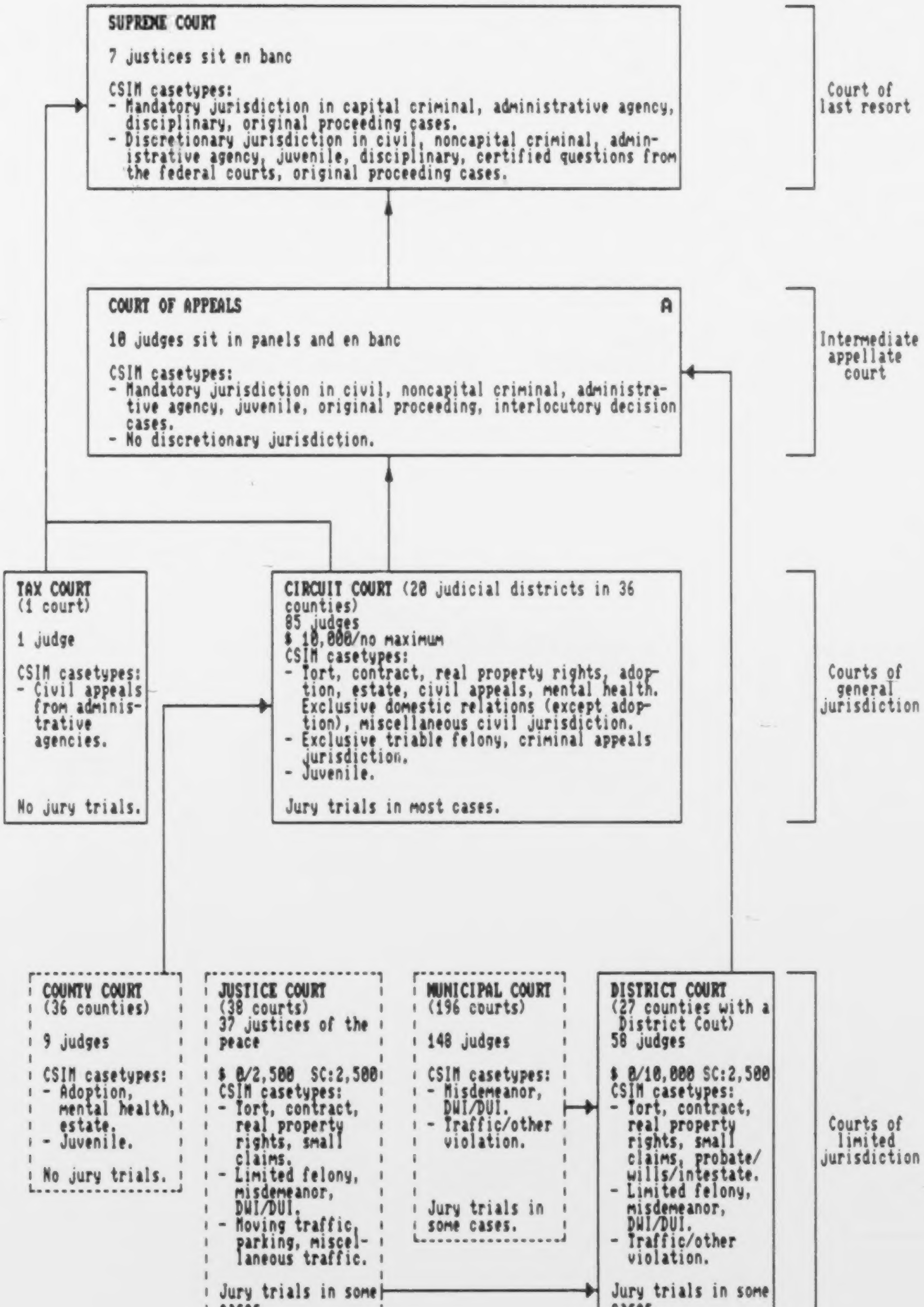
Courts of limited jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

Oklahoma has a Workers' Compensation Court which hears complaints that are handled exclusively by administrative agencies in other states.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

OREGON COURT STRUCTURE, 1986


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF APPEALS

10 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

TAX COURT
(1 court)

1 judge

CSIM casetypes:
- Civil appeals from administrative agencies.

No jury trials.

CIRCUIT COURT (20 judicial districts in 36 counties)
85 judges
$ 10,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, adoption, estate, civil appeals, mental health. Exclusive domestic relations (except adoption), miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

COUNTY COURT
(36 counties)

9 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Adoption, mental health, estate.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE COURT
(38 courts)
37 justices of the peace

$ 0/2,500 SC:2,500
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials in some cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(196 courts)

148 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some cases.

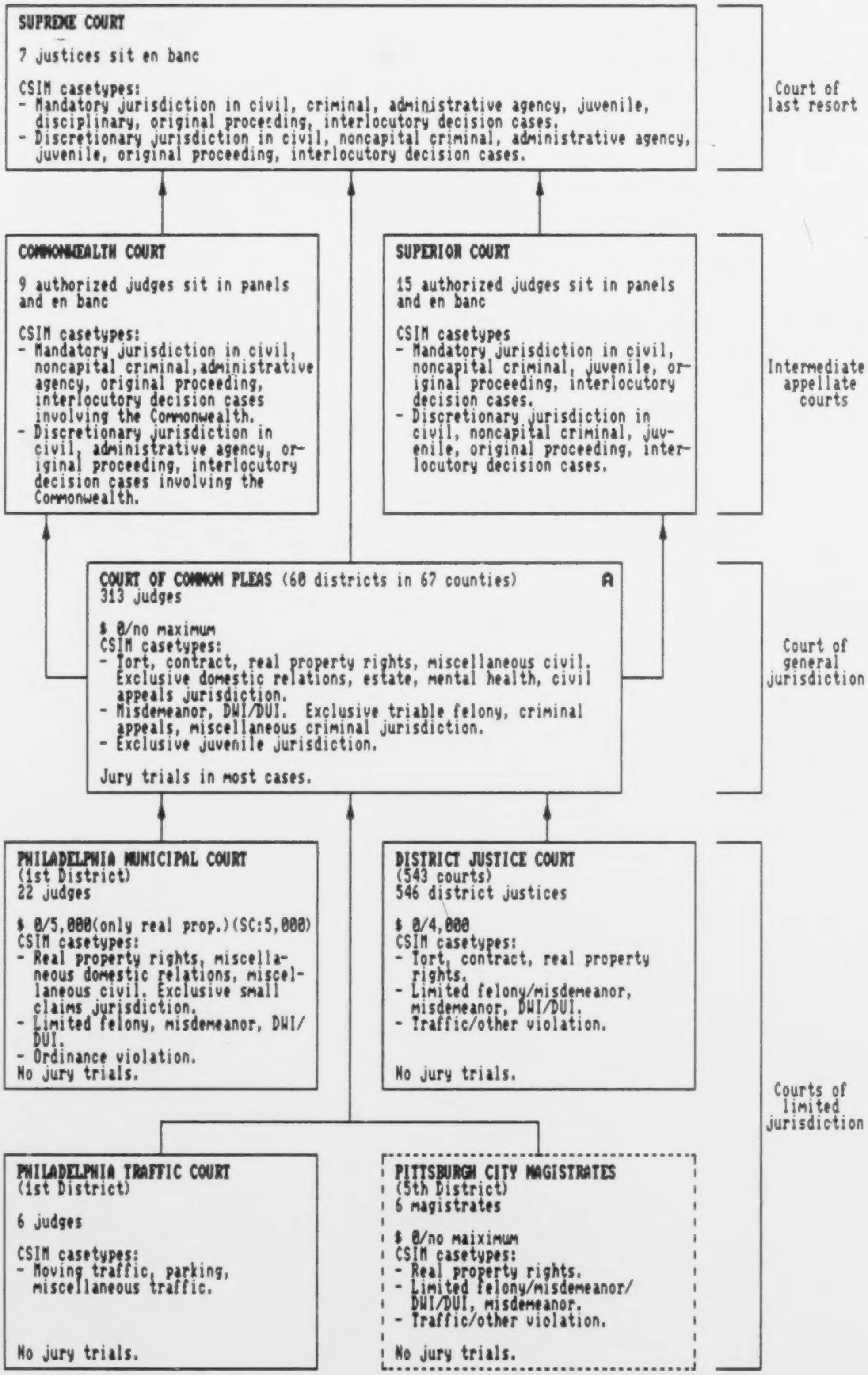
DISTRICT COURT
(27 counties with a District Cout)
58 judges

$ 0/10,000 SC:2,500
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, probate/wills/intestate.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some cases.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

PENNSYLVANIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COMMONWEALTH COURT

9 authorized judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases involving the Commonwealth.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases involving the Commonwealth.

SUPERIOR COURT

15 authorized judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate courts

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (60 districts in 67 counties) **A**
313 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

PHILADELPHIA MUNICIPAL COURT
(1st District)
22 judges

$ 0/5,000(only real prop.)(SC:5,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights, miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Ordinance violation.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT JUSTICE COURT
(543 courts)
546 district justices

$ 0/4,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights.
- Limited felony/misdemeanor, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

PHILADELPHIA TRAFFIC COURT
(1st District)

6 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

No jury trials.

PITTSBURGH CITY MAGISTRATES
(5th District)
6 magistrates

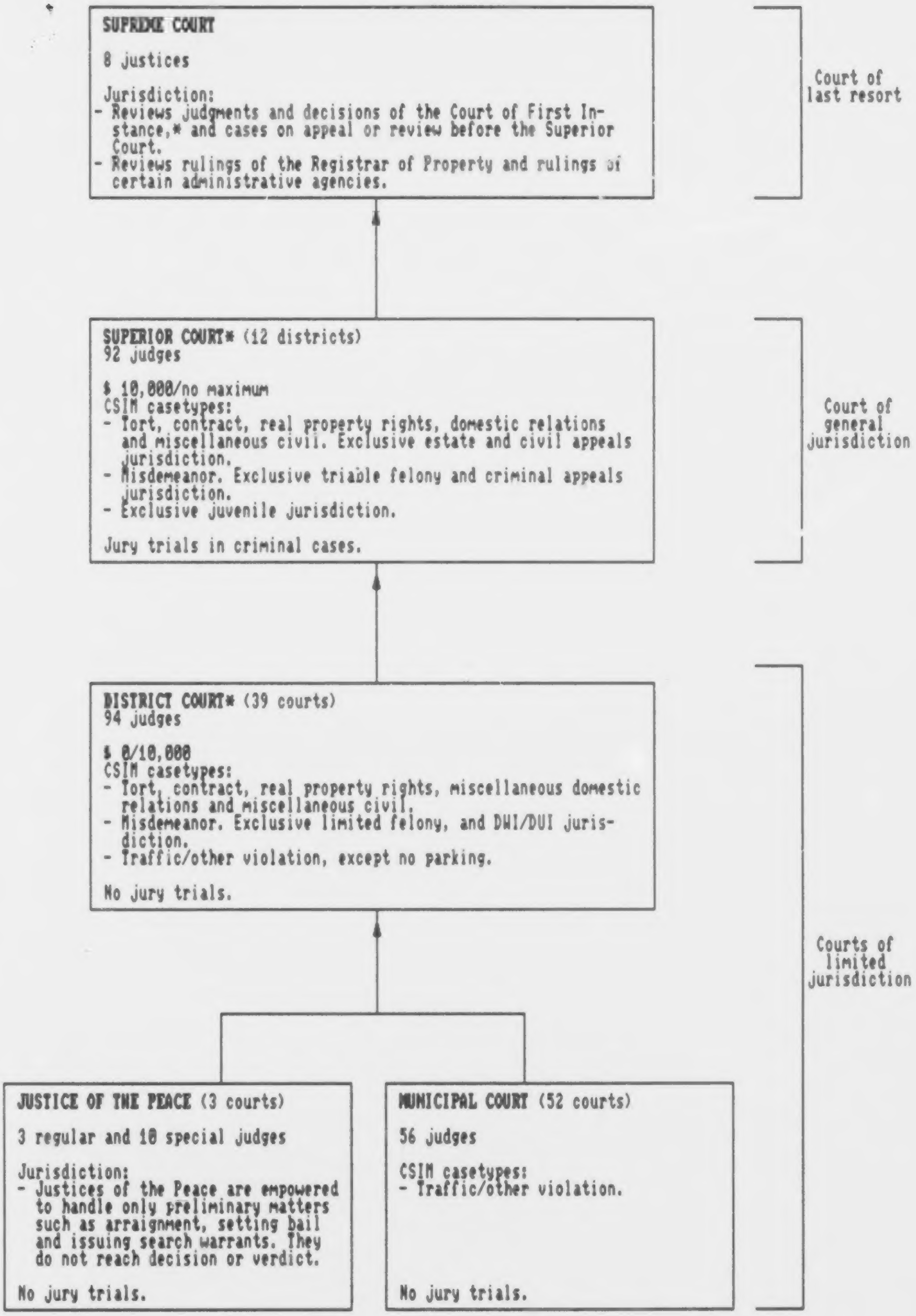
$ 0/no maiximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Real property rights.
- Limited felony/misdemeanor/DWI/DUI, misdemeanor.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

PUERTO RICO COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

8 justices

Jurisdiction:
- Reviews judgments and decisions of the Court of First Instance,* and cases on appeal or review before the Superior Court.
- Reviews rulings of the Registrar of Property and rulings of certain administrative agencies.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT* (12 districts)
92 judges

$ 10,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, domestic relations and miscellaneous civil. Exclusive estate and civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony and criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in criminal cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT* (39 courts)
94 judges

$ 0/10,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous domestic relations and miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive limited felony, and DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation, except no parking.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (3 courts)

3 regular and 10 special judges

Jurisdiction:
- Justices of the Peace are empowered to handle only preliminary matters such as arraignment, setting bail and issuing search warrants. They do not reach decision or verdict.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (52 courts)

56 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

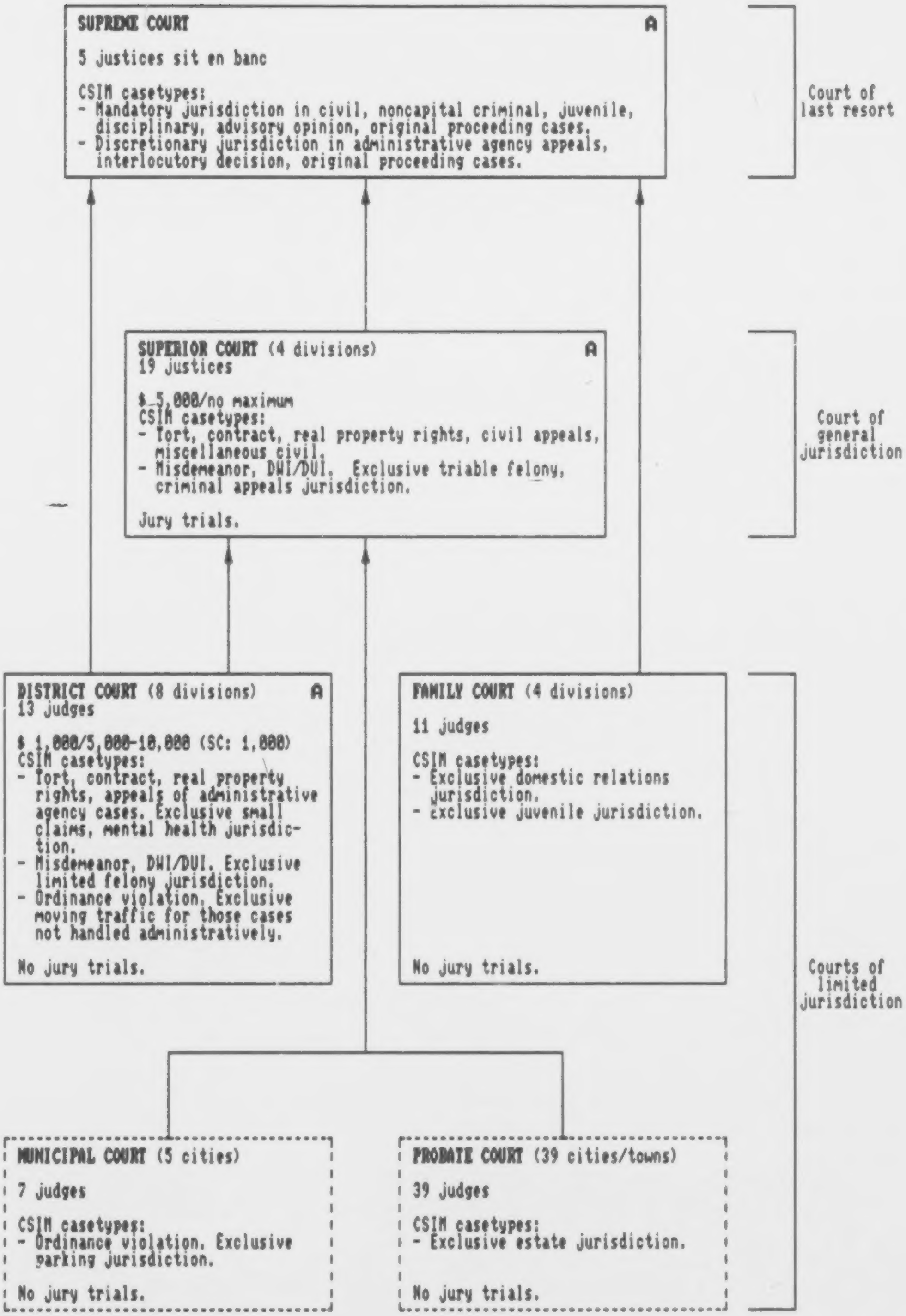
No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* The Court of First Instance consists of two divisions: the Superior Court and the District Court.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

RHODE ISLAND COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency appeals, interlocutory decision, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (4 divisions) A
19 justices

$ 5,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (8 divisions) A
13 judges

$ 1,000/5,000-10,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, appeals of administrative agency cases. Exclusive small claims, mental health jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive moving traffic for those cases not handled administratively.

No jury trials.

FAMILY COURT (4 divisions)

11 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (5 cities)

7 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive parking jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (39 cities/towns)

39 judges

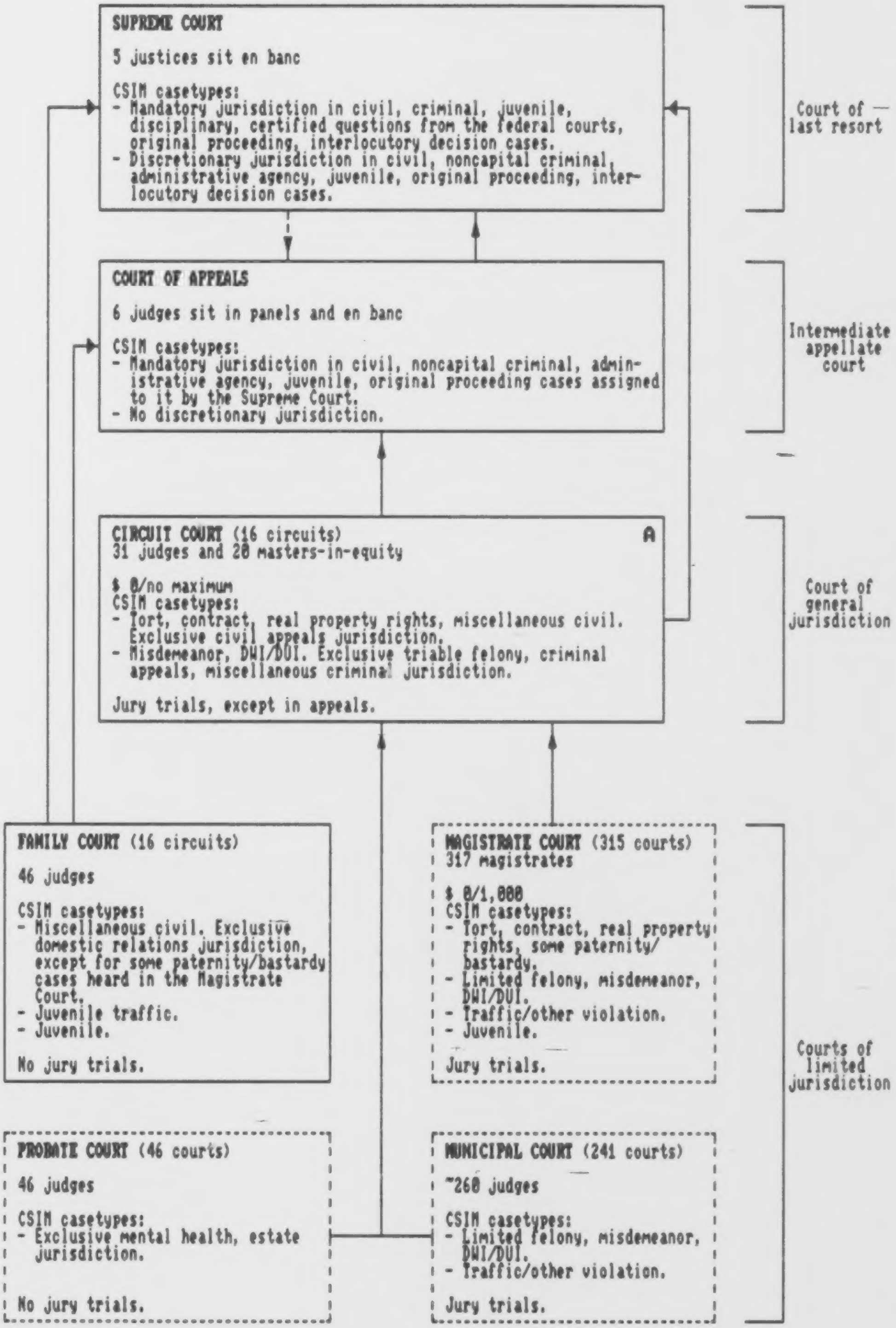
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

SOUTH CAROLINA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (16 circuits) A
31 judges and 20 masters-in-equity

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

FAMILY COURT (16 circuits)

46 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction, except for some paternity/bastardy cases heard in the Magistrate Court.
- Juvenile traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

MAGISTRATE COURT (315 courts)
317 magistrates

$ 0/1,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, some paternity/bastardy.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (46 courts)

46 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive mental health, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (241 courts)

~260 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

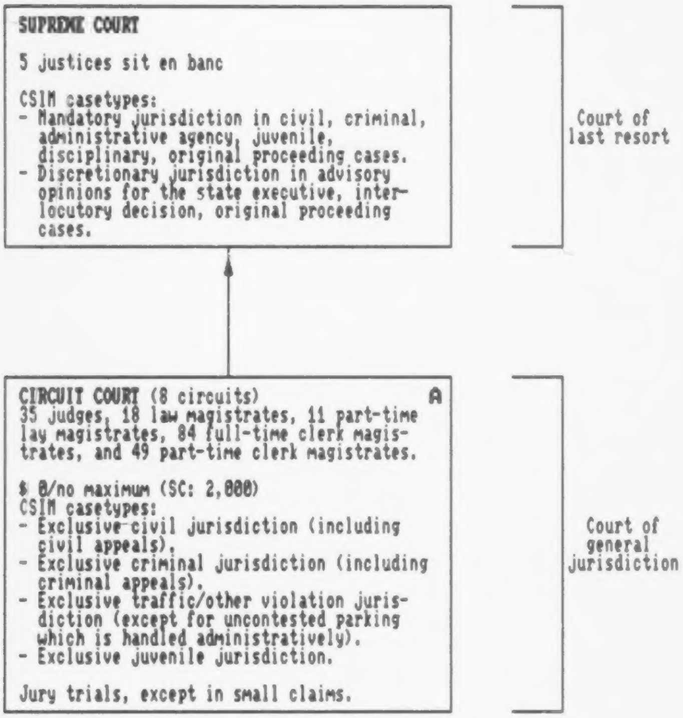
Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

SOUTH DAKOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in advisory opinions for the state executive, interlocutory decision, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

CIRCUIT COURT (8 circuits) A

35 judges, 18 law magistrates, 11 part-time lay magistrates, 84 full-time clerk magistrates, and 49 part-time clerk magistrates.

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 2,000)

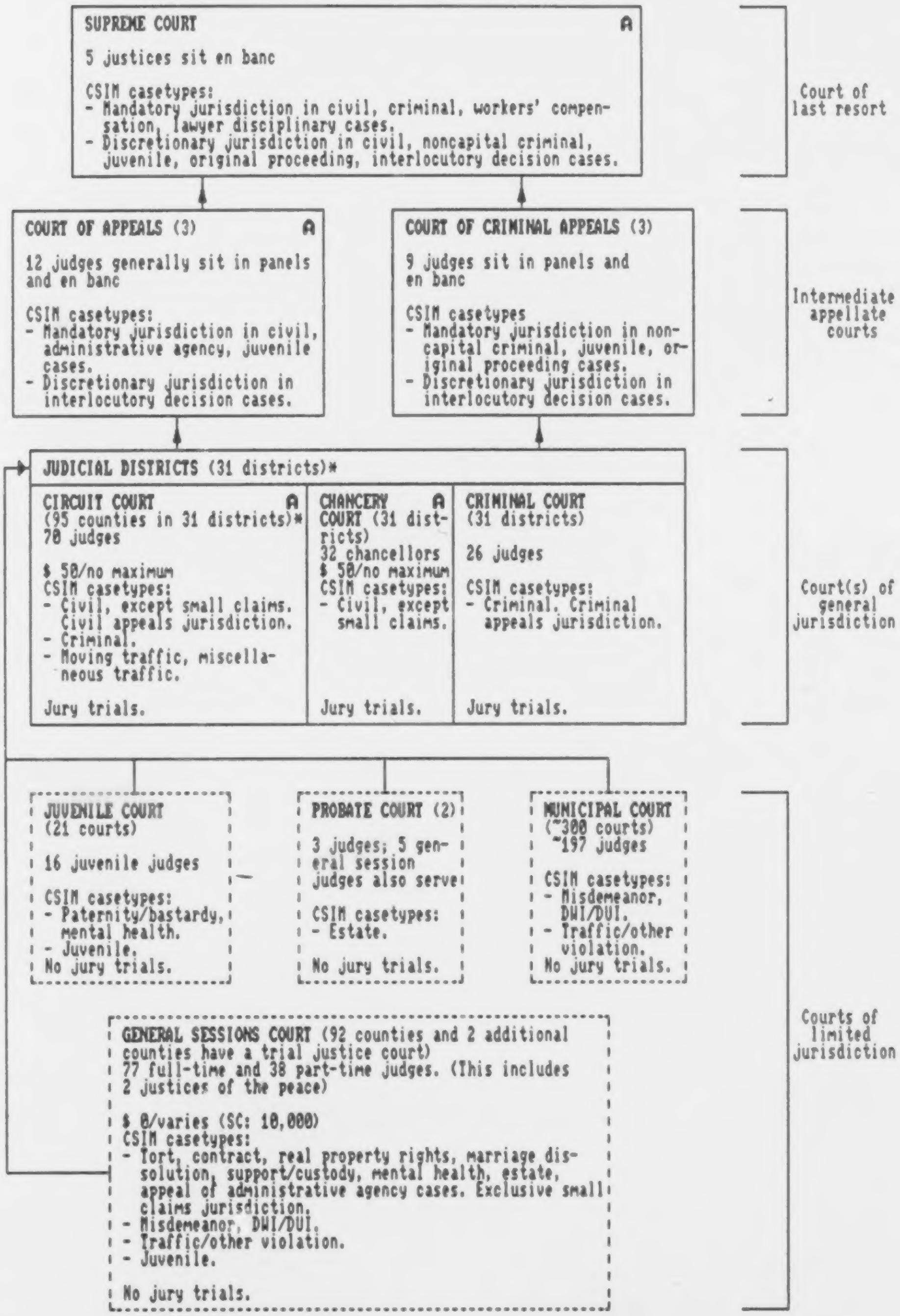
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction (except for uncontested parking which is handled administratively).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

Court of general jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

TENNESSEE COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, workers' compensation, lawyer disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (3) A

12 judges generally sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS (3)

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate courts

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS (31 districts)*

CIRCUIT COURT A
(95 counties in 31 districts)*
70 judges

$ 50/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Civil, except small claims. Civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Criminal.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY COURT A (31 districts)
32 chancellors
$ 50/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Civil, except small claims.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL COURT
(31 districts)

26 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Criminal. Criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court(s) of general jurisdiction

JUVENILE COURT
(21 courts)

16 juvenile judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, mental health.
- Juvenile.
No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (2)

3 judges; 5 general session judges also serve

CSIM casetypes:
- Estate.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(~300 courts)
~197 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
No jury trials.

GENERAL SESSIONS COURT (92 counties and 2 additional counties have a trial justice court)
77 full-time and 38 part-time judges. (This includes 2 justices of the peace)

$ 0/varies (SC: 10,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, marriage dissolution, support/custody, mental health, estate, appeal of administrative agency cases. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

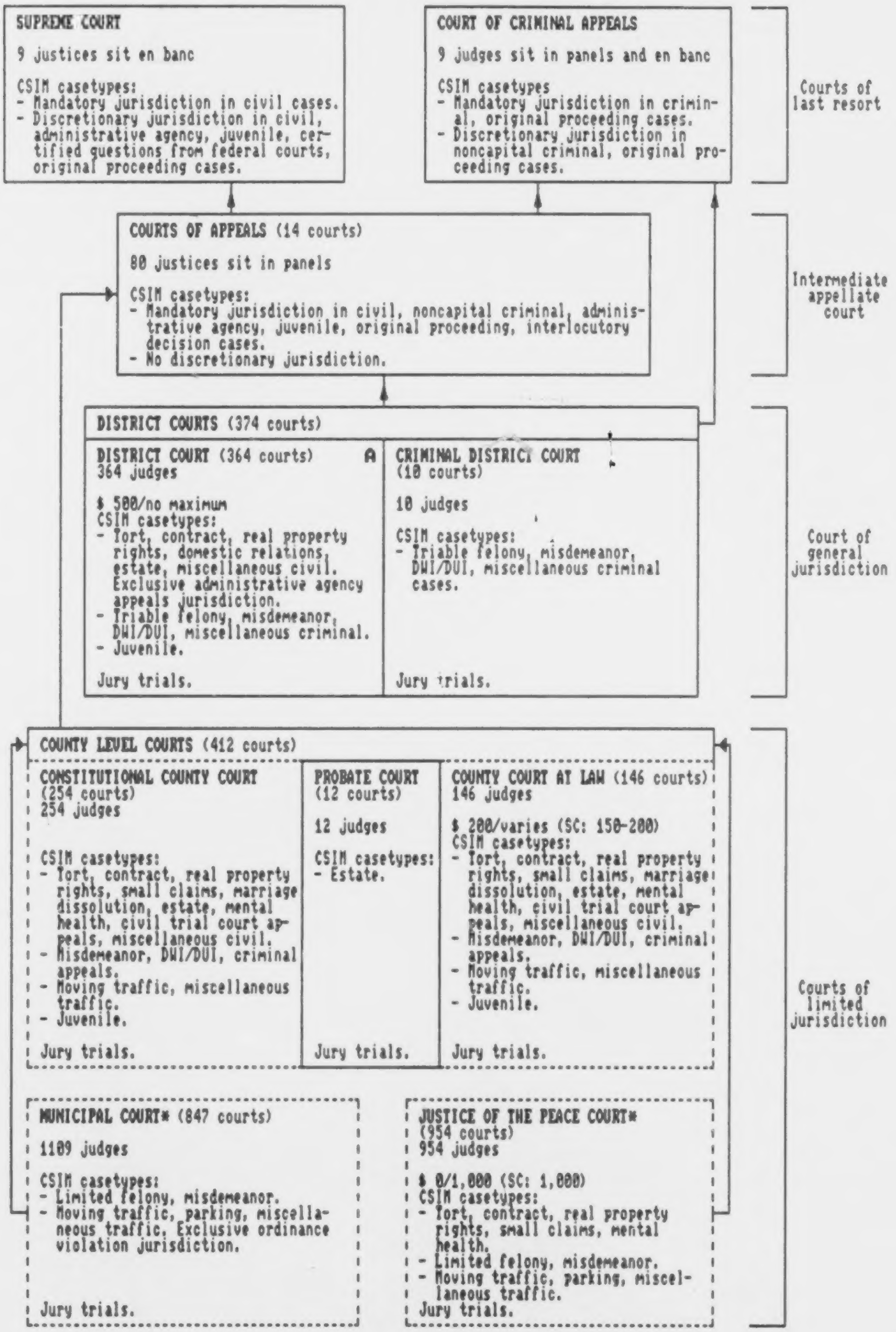
No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

*The State of Tennessee was divided into 31 judicial districts on September 1, 1984. There is a Circuit in each district. Twenty seven districts have separate Chancery Courts, and thirteen districts have separate Criminal Courts. The Circuit Court has jurisdiction over chancery and criminal matters in the remaining circuits. There is one presiding judge for each district. As a result of the redistricting, two Law and Equity Courts became Circuit Courts and the other two became Chancery Courts.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

TEXAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSIM casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.

Courts of last resort

COURTS OF APPEALS (14 courts)

80 justices sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURTS (374 courts)

DISTRICT COURT (364 courts) A
364 judges

$ 500/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, domestic relations, estate, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT
(10 courts)

10 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal cases.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

COUNTY LEVEL COURTS (412 courts)

CONSTITUTIONAL COUNTY COURT
(254 courts)
254 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, marriage dissolution, estate, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
(12 courts)

12 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Estate.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT AT LAW (146 courts)
146 judges

$ 200/varies (SC: 150-200)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, marriage dissolution, estate, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT* (847 courts)

1109 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT*
(954 courts)
954 judges

$ 0/1,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, mental health.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

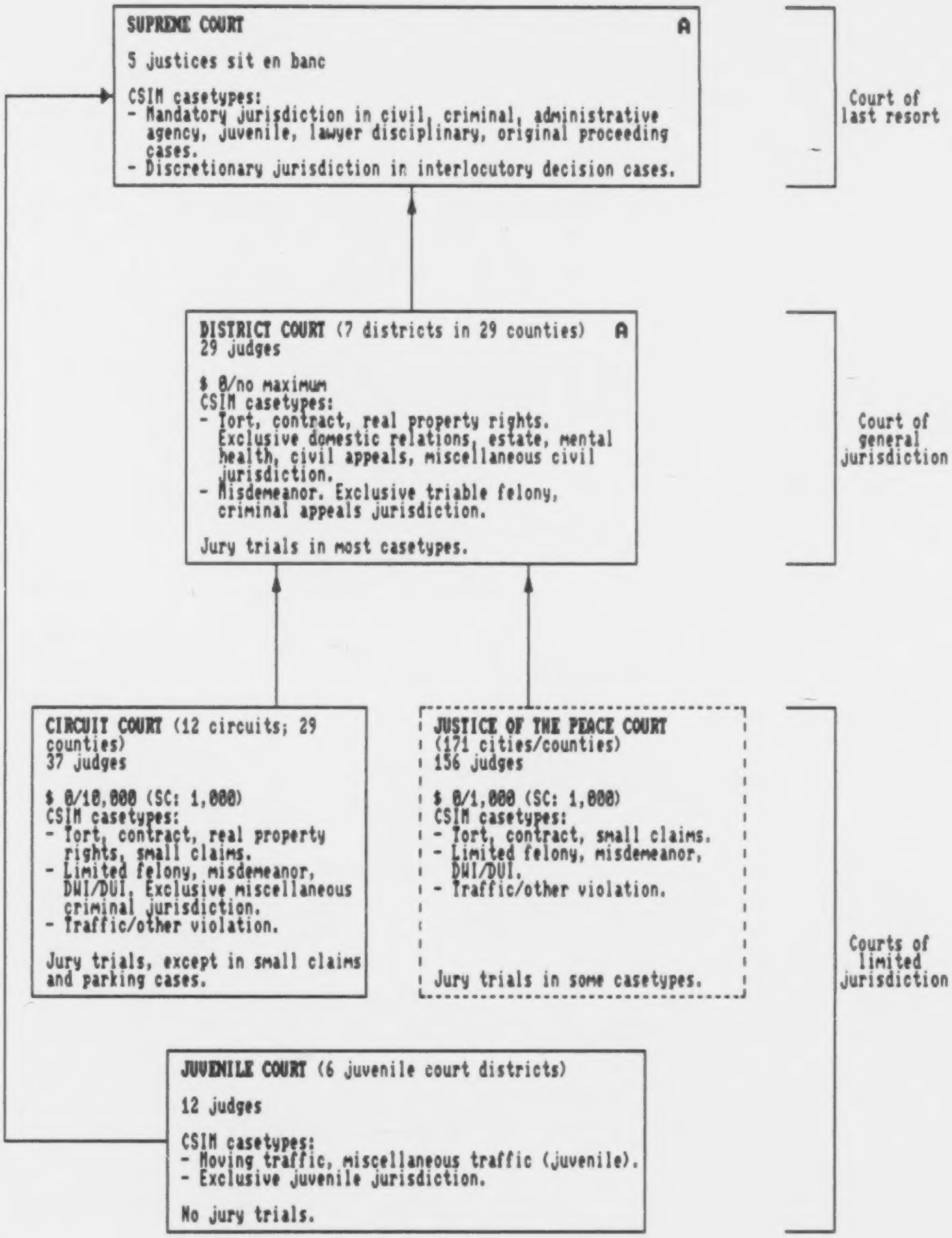
Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* Some Municipal and Justice of the Peace Courts may appeal to the District Court.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

UTAH COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (7 districts in 29 counties) A
29 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most casetypes.

Court of general jurisdiction

CIRCUIT COURT (12 circuits; 29 counties)
37 judges

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except in small claims and parking cases.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(171 cities/counties)
156 judges

$ 0/1,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some casetypes.

JUVENILE COURT (6 juvenile court districts)

12 judges

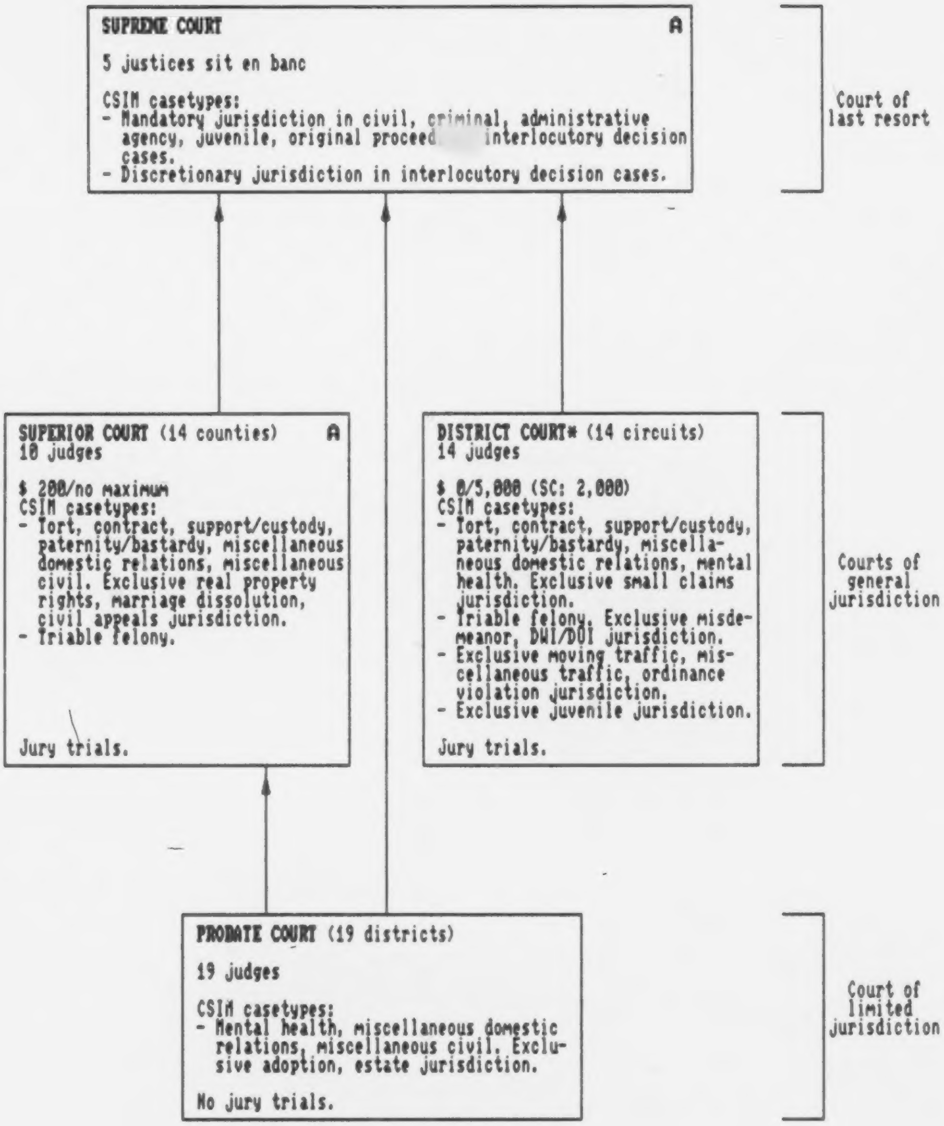
CSIM casetypes:
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic (juvenile).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

VERMONT COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceed[illegible] interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (14 counties) A
10 judges

$ 200/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive real property rights, marriage dissolution, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony.

Jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT* (14 circuits)
14 judges

$ 0/5,000 (SC: 2,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Triable felony. Exclusive misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (19 districts)

19 judges

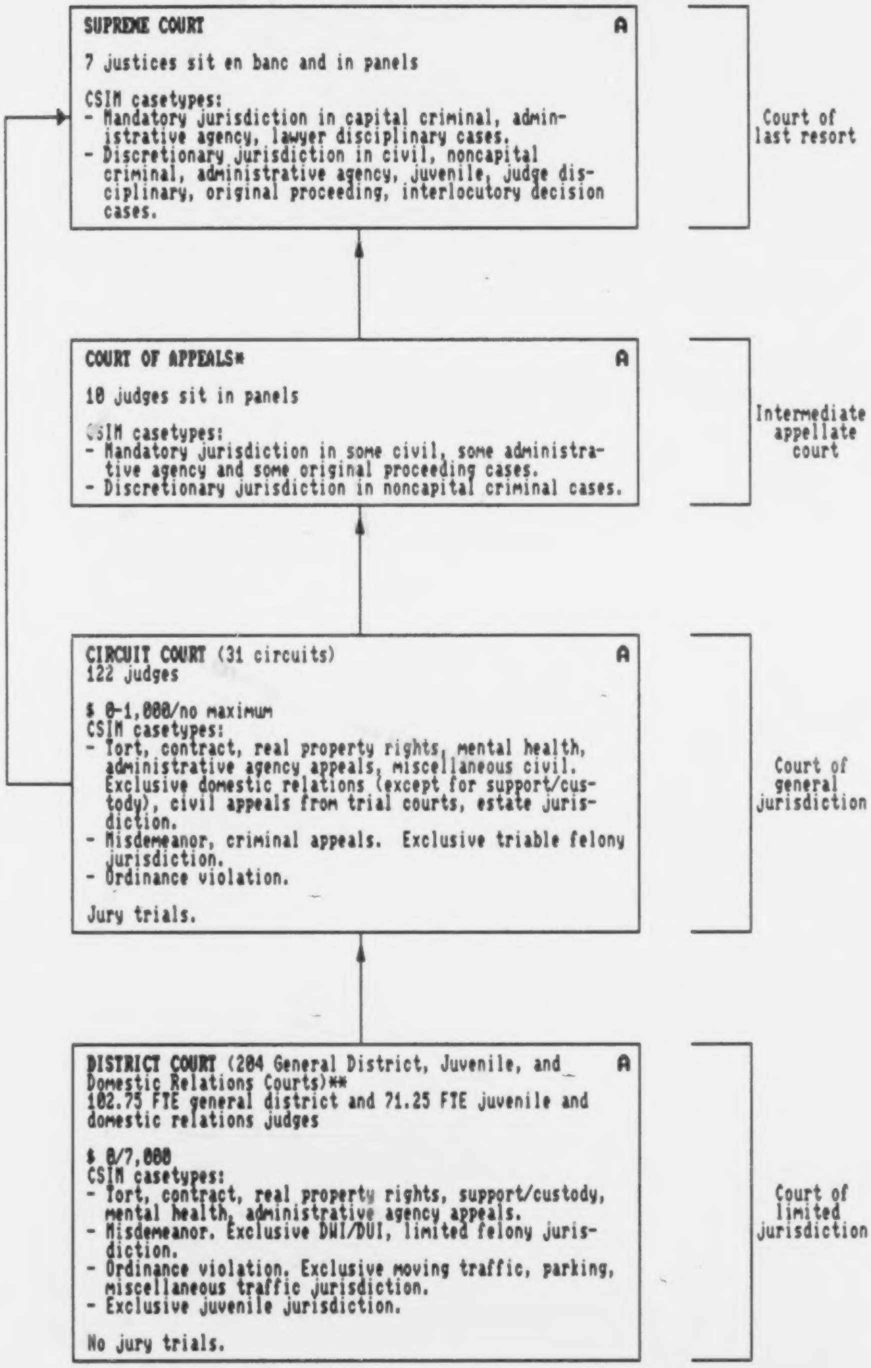
CSIM casetypes:
- Mental health, miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

* The District Court was created as a court of limited jurisdiction, but since its creation, has steadily increased its scope to include almost all criminal business. In 1983, the District Court was granted jurisdiction over all criminal cases, and has become the court of general jurisdiction for most criminal matters. A small number of appeals go to the Superior Court.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

VIRGINIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal, administrative agency, lawyer disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS* A

10 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in some civil, some administrative agency and some original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in noncapital criminal cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (31 circuits) A
122 judges

$ 0-1,000/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, mental health, administrative agency appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations (except for support/custody), civil appeals from trial courts, estate jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, criminal appeals. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (204 General District, Juvenile, and Domestic Relations Courts)** A
102.75 FTE general district and 71.25 FTE juvenile and domestic relations judges

$ 0/7,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, support/custody, mental health, administrative agency appeals.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive DWI/DUI, limited felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

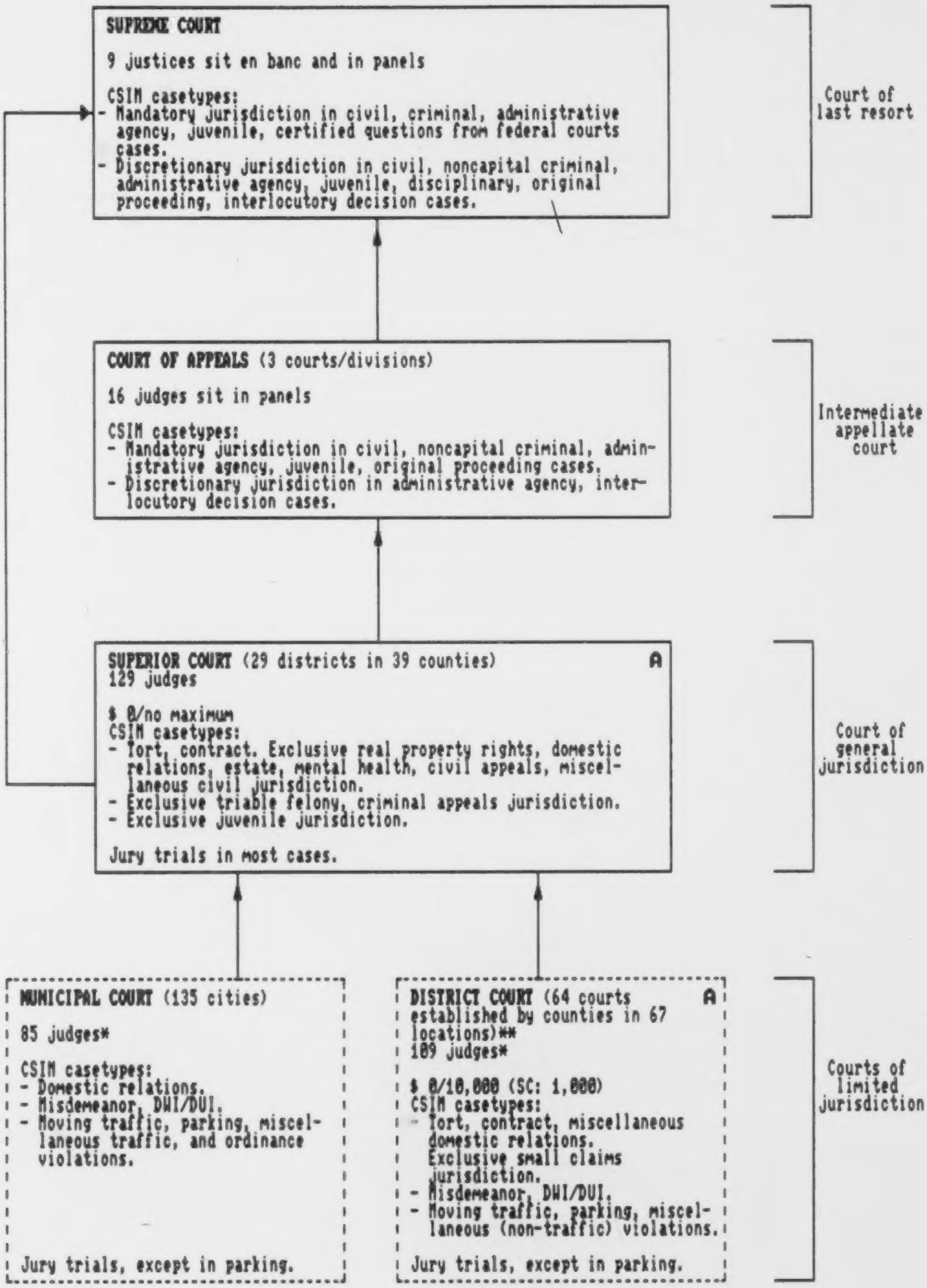
No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

* The Virginia Court of Appeals, an intermediate appellate court, became effective January 1, 1985.
** The District Court is referred to as the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court when hearing juvenile and domestic relations cases, and as the General District Court for the balance of the cases.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

WASHINGTON COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (3 courts/divisions)

16 judges sit in panels

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (29 districts in 39 counties) A
129 judges

$ 0/no maximum
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract. Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (135 cities)

85 judges*

CSIM casetypes:
- Domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic, and ordinance violations.

Jury trials, except in parking.

DISTRICT COURT (64 courts established by counties in 67 locations)** A
109 judges*

$ 0/10,000 (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, miscellaneous domestic relations. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous (non-traffic) violations.

Jury trials, except in parking.

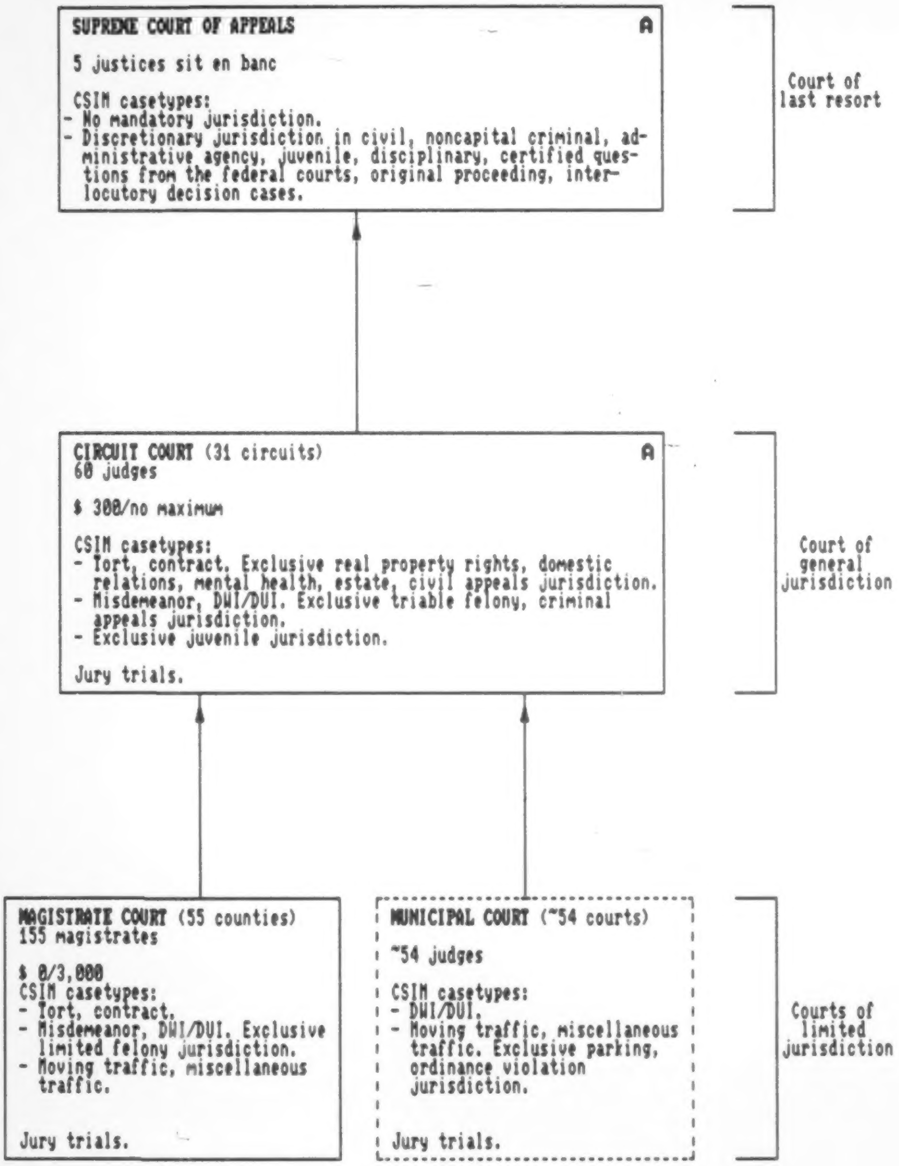
Courts of limited jurisdiction

* There are 194 judges assigned to the Municipal Court and District Court: 169 are attorneys, 25 are non-attorneys; 87 are full-time, 107 are part-time.

** District Court provides services to municipalities that do not have a Municipal Court.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

WEST VIRGINIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

CIRCUIT COURT (31 circuits) A
60 judges

$ 300/no maximum

CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract. Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MAGISTRATE COURT (55 counties)
155 magistrates

$ 0/3,000
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (~54 courts)

~54 judges

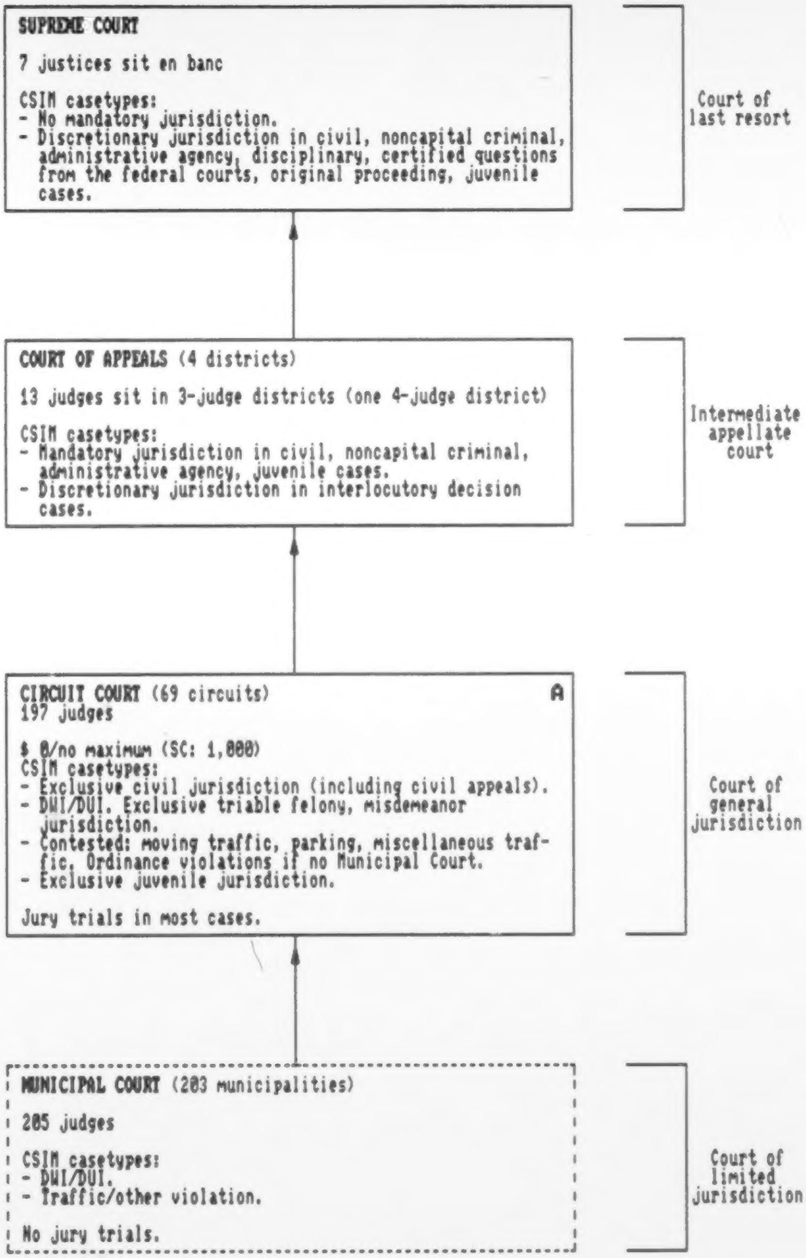
CSIM casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive parking, ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

WISCONSIN COURT STRUCTURE, 1986


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Court of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding, juvenile cases.

COURT OF APPEALS (4 districts)

13 judges sit in 3-judge districts (one 4-judge district)

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (69 circuits)
197 judges

$ 0/no maximum (SC: 1,000)
CSIM casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals).
- DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, misdemeanor jurisdiction.
- Contested: moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Ordinance violations if no Municipal Court.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (203 municipalities)

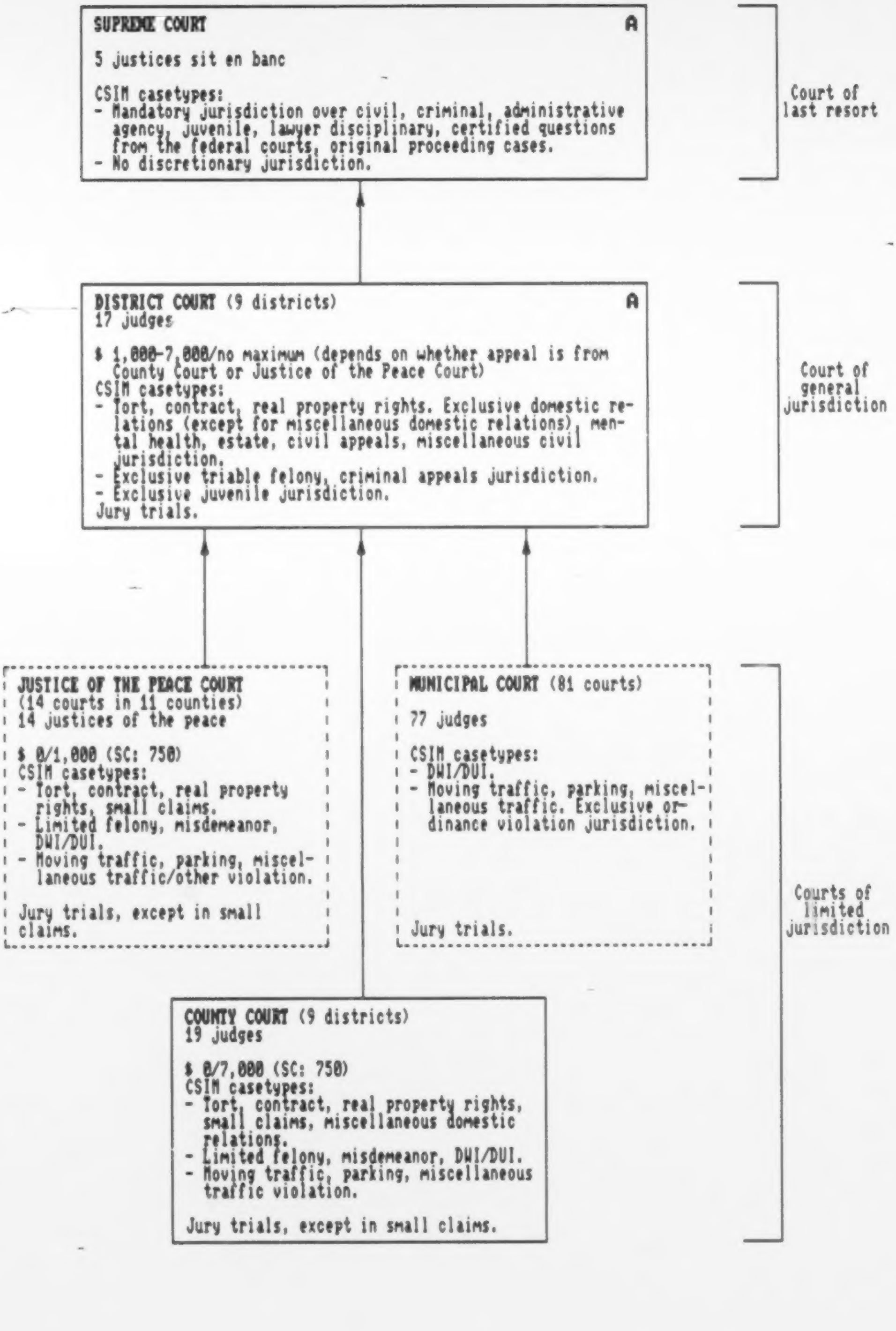
205 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

WYOMING COURT STRUCTURE, 1986



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSIM casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction over civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from the federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (9 districts) A
17 judges

$ 1,000-7,000/no maximum (depends on whether appeal is from County Court or Justice of the Peace Court)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations (except for miscellaneous domestic relations), mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(14 courts in 11 counties)
14 justices of the peace

$ 0/1,000 (SC: 750)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (81 courts)

77 judges

CSIM casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (9 districts)
19 judges

$ 0/7,000 (SC: 750)
CSIM casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic violation.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: Be sure to read the text at the beginning of this section which contains important information relevant to each chart.

Part IV

1986 State Court Caseload Tables

TABLE 1: Reported National Caseload for State Appellate Courts, 1986

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
Courts of last resort:		
I. Mandatory jurisdiction cases:		
A. Number of reported complete and comparable cases	15,561	11,380
Number of cases per judge/justice	79	79
Number of courts reporting complete and comparable data	29	23
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting complete and comparable mandatory jurisdiction data	28	22
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by complete and comparable data	62%	50%
B. Number of reported complete cases that include some discretionary petitions	6,226	7,156
Number of cases per judge/justice	93	94
Number of courts reporting complete data with some discretionary petitions	11	12
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting complete mandatory jurisdiction data that include some discretionary petitions	11	12
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by complete data that include some discretionary petitions	12%	14%
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	1,762	1,378
Number of cases per judge/justice	36	37
Number of courts reporting incomplete data, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	7	5
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting either incomplete mandatory jurisdiction data or data that are both incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	7	5
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by incomplete data, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	19%	6%
II. Discretionary jurisdiction petitions:		
A. Number of reported complete and comparable petitions	27,295	20,564
Number of petitions per judge/justice	123	121
Number of courts reporting complete and comparable petitions	32	25
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting complete and comparable discretionary jurisdiction petitions	32	25
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by complete and comparable data	75%	56%
B. Number of reported complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	5,608	7,813
Number of petitions per judge/justice	295	206
Number of courts reporting complete petitions with some mandatory cases	3	6
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	3	6
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by complete data that include some mandatory cases	8%	13%
C. Number of reported petitions that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	5,696	4,748
Number of petitions per judge/justice	116	90
Number of courts reporting incomplete petitions, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	8	8
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting either incomplete petitions or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	8	8
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by incomplete data, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	11%	13%

(continued on next page)

TABLE 1: Reported national caseload for state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
Intermediate appellate courts:		
I. Mandatory jurisdiction cases:		
A. Number of reported complete and comparable cases	77,030	65,874
Number of cases per judge/justice	162	145
Number of courts reporting complete and comparable data	26	24
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting complete and comparable mandatory jurisdiction data	25	23
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by complete and comparable data	64%	48%
B. Number of reported complete cases that include some discretionary cases	53,395	54,306
Number of cases per judge/justice	207	236
Number of courts reporting complete data with some discretionary petitions	14	14
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting complete data that include some discretionary petitions	13	12
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by complete data that include some discretionary petitions	43%	39%
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	0	0
II. Discretionary jurisdiction petitions:		
A. Number of reported complete and comparable petitions	13,248	5,130
Number of petitions per judge/justice	53	17
Number of courts reporting complete and comparable petitions	14	9
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting complete and comparable discretionary jurisdiction petitions	14	9
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by complete and comparable data	48%	23%
B. Number of reported complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	371	317
Number of petitions per judge/justice	23	20
Number of courts reporting complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	1	1
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	1	1
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by complete data that include some mandatory cases	3%	3%
C. Number of reported petitions that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	2,294	2,012
Number of petitions per judge/justice	50	35
Number of courts reporting incomplete data, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	1	2
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting either incomplete petitions or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	1	2
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by incomplete data, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	7%	10%

Summary section for all appellate courts:

	Reported filings		
	COLR	IAC	Total
A. Number of reported complete and comparable cases/petitions	42,856	90,278	133,134
B. Number of reported complete cases/petitions that include other case types	11,834	53,766	65,600
C. Number of reported cases/petitions that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include other casetypes	7,458	2,294	9,752
Total	62,148	146,338	208,486

TABLE 2: Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1986

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	
State/Court name:				Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL	823	396	N/A	1,219	152		
Supreme Court	318	313	N/A	631	126		
Court of Appeals	505	83	N/A	588	196		
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL	3,470*	1,205*	N/A	4,675	234		
Supreme Court	118[1]	1,156[C]	N/A	1,274	255		
Court of Appeals	3,352	49	N/A	3,401	227		
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL	1,362*			1,362*	105*		
Supreme Court	411[P]	(P)	N/A	411[1]	59[1]		
Court of Appeals	951	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL	10,271*	11,042	892*	21,313*	254*	11,163*	133*
Supreme Court	236[1]	4,808	278[1]	5,044[1]	721[1]	514[1]	73[1]
Courts of Appeal	10,035	6,234	614	16,269	211	10,649	138
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL	2,067	783		2,850	168		
Supreme Court	205	783	N/A	988	141		
Court of Appeals	1,862	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
CONNECTICUT--							
Supreme Court	N/A	204[P]	N/A				
Appellate Court	953[C]	47	(C)	1,000[C]	200[C]		
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL	14,131	3,391		17,522	331		
Supreme Court	629	1,097	N/A	1,726	247		
District Courts of Appeal	13,502	2,294	N/A	15,796	343		
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL	3,282*	1,627		4,909*	307*		
Supreme Court	616[B]	980	127	1,596[B]	228[B]	743[B]	106[B]
Court of Appeals	2,666[B]	647	N/A	3,313[B]	366[B]		
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL	736*	43	7	779*	97*	743*	93*
Supreme Court	604[B]	43	7	647[B]	129[B]	611[B]	122[B]
Court of Appeals	132	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
IDAHO--STATE TOTAL	462*	77		539*	67*		
Supreme Court	288[C]	77	(C)	365[C]	73[C]		
Court of Appeals	174	NH	NH	--	--	--	--

	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL .	944	389		1,333			
Supreme Court	355	290	N/A	645		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	589	99	N/A	688		IAC	1
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL	3,515*	1,204*		4,719			
Supreme Court	70[1]	1,156^{C}	124^{C}	1,226	194	COLR	6
Court of Appeals ..	3,445	48	N/A	3,493		IAC	6
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL	1,244*						
Supreme Court	404^{P}	(P)	(P)	404[1]	404^{P}	COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	840	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	2
CALIFORNIA--							
Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A			COLR	6
Courts of Appeal ..	N/A	N/A	N/A			IAC	2
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL	1,590*	973*		2,563			
Supreme Court	(C)	973^{C}	N/A	973		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	1,590	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	1
CONNECTICUT--							
Supreme Court	N/A	338^{P}	N/A			COLR	1
Appellate Court ...	1,055^{C}		(C)		1,055	IAC	1
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL	13,491	3,011		16,502			
Supreme Court	644	1,260	N/A	1,904		COLR	1
District Courts of Appeal	12,847	1,751	N/A	14,598		IAC	1
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL	2,545*	1,656*		4,201*			
Supreme Court	(C)	1,656^{C}	N/A	1,656^{C}		COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	2,545^{C}	(C)	N/A	2,545^{C}		IAC	2
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL .	823*	45		868*			
Supreme Court	691^{B}	45	(B)	736^{B}		COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	132	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	2
IDAHO--STATE TOTAL ..	533*	71		604*			
Supreme Court	359^{C}	71	(C)	430^{C}		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	174	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	4

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
ILLINOIS--STATE TOTAL	8,113*	1,637*		9,750	199		
Supreme Court	563	1,637	156	2,200	314	719	103
Appellate Court	7,550[C]	(C)	N/A	7,550	180		
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL							
Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals	1,073[C]	(C)	N/A	1,073	89		
IOWA--STATE TOTAL	2,080	352*		2,432	162		
Supreme Court	1,528	352	N/A	1,880	209		
Court of Appeals	552	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
KANSAS--STATE TOTAL	1,320*						
Supreme Court	189	N/A	151				
Court of Appeals	1,131[C]	N/A	(C)				
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL	3,030	941		3,971	189		
Supreme Court	261	847	135	1,108	158	396	57
Court of Appeals	2,769	94	N/A	2,863	205		
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL	3,807	5,471	1,276	9,278	169	5,083	92
Supreme Court	112	2,455	427	2,567	367	539	77
Courts of Appeal	3,695	3,016	849	6,711	140	4,544	95
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL	1,882*	847		2,729*	136*		
Court of Appeals	238[B]	607	104	845[B]	121[B]	342[B]	49[B]
Court of Special Appeals	1,644	240	N/A	1,884	145	--	--
MASSACHUSETTS--STATE TOTAL ..	1,438*	1,473*		2,911	171		
Supreme Judicial Court	86	1,473	205	1,559	223	291	42
Appeals Court	1,352[C]	(C)	N/A	1,352	135		
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL	7,970*	2,042*		10,012	400		
Supreme Court	4	2,042	124	2,046	292	128	18
Court of Appeals	7,966[C]	(C)	N/A	7,966	443		
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL	1,942	879*	216*	2,821*	141*	2,158*	108*
Supreme Court	175	589	126	764	96	301	38
Court of Appeals	1,767	290[1]	90[1]	2,057[1]	171[1]	1,857[1]	155[1]
MISSOURI--STATE TOTAL	3,311*	989	66	4,304*	110*	3,377*	87*
Supreme Court	164[B]	993	66	1,157[B]	165[B]	230[B]	33[B]
Court of Appeals	3,147	NH	NH	--	--	--	--

	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
ILLINOIS--STATE TOTAL	7,537	1,622[*]		9,159			
Supreme Court	530	1,622	162	2,152	692	COLR	1
Appellate Court ...	7,007[C]	(C)	N/A	7,007		IAC	1
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL	1,586[*]	355[*]		1,941[*]			
Supreme Court	470	355[1]	147	825[1]	617	COLR	6
Court of Appeals ..	1,116[C]	(C)	N/A	1,116		IAC	6
IOWA--STATE TOTAL ...	1,522[*]	520[*]	70[*]	2,042	1,592		
Supreme Court	933[C]	520[1]	70[1]	1,453	1,003	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	589	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	4
KANSAS--STATE TOTAL .	1,437[*]						
Supreme Court	331	N/A	N/A			COLR	5
Court of Appeals ..	1,106[C]	N/A	(C)		1,106	IAC	5
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL	2,914	1,005		3,919			
Supreme Court	253	898	N/A	1,151		COLR	6
Court of Appeals ..	2,661	107	N/A	2,768		IAC	3
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL	4,015	5,165	1,302	9,180	5,317		
Supreme Court	71	2,230	451	2,301	522	COLR	2
Courts of Appeal ..	3,944	2,935	851	6,879	4,795	IAC	2
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL	1,740[*]	885		2,625[*]			
Court of Appeals ..	188[B]	700	(B)	888[B]		COLR	2
Court of Special Appeals	1,552	185	N/A	1,737		IAC	2
MASSACHUSETTS--							
Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A			COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	N/A	N/A	N/A			IAC	2
MICHIGAN--							
Supreme Court	(C)	2,397[C]	N/A	2,397		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	6,573[C]	(C)	N/A	6,573		IAC	1
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL	2,005	883[*]		2,888[*]			
Supreme Court	157	622	N/A	779		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	1,848	261[1]	91[1]	2,109[1]	1,939[1]	IAC	1
MISSOURI--STATE TOTAL	3,321[*]	956[*]		4,277[*]			
Supreme Court	115[B]	956[1]	(B)	1,071[B]		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	3,206	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	1

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL	6,342*						
Supreme Court	236	1,382[1]	N/A	1,618[1]	231[1]		
Appellate Division of Superior Court	6,106[C]	N/A	(C)			6,106	218
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL	1,415	254	80	1,669	139	1,495	125
Supreme Court	744	202	67	946	189	811	162
Court of Appeals	671	52	13	723	103	684	98
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL	1,630*	1,281	207*	2,911*	153*	1,837*	97*
Supreme Court	249	735	57	984	141	306	44
Court of Appeals	1,381[B]	546	150[C]	1,927[B]	161[B]	1,531[D]	128[D]
OHIO--STATE TOTAL	10,174	1,733	202	11,907	198	10,376	173
Supreme Court	491	1,733	202	2,224	318	693	99
Court of Appeals	9,683	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
OREGON--STATE TOTAL	4,291	967	140	5,258	309	4,431	261
Supreme Court	145	967	140	1,112	159	285	41
Court of Appeals	4,146	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL .	870	24	24	894	81	894	81
Supreme Court	519	24	24	543	109	543	109
Court of Appeals	351	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL		2,306	426*				
Supreme Court	N/A	1,193	191				
Court of Appeals	419	1,113	235[1]	1,532	153	654[1]	65[1]
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL	3,697*	1,268*		4,965	199		
Supreme Court	162[P]	897[P]	N/A	1,059	118		
Court of Appeals	3,535	371	N/A	3,906	244		
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL	2,053	1,077		3,130	157		
Supreme Court	NH	836	103	--	--	--	--
Court of Appeals	2,053	241	N/A	2,294	176		
STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	417[C]	3[V]	(C)	420	84	417	83
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Court of Appeals	1,560[C]	76	(C)	1,636[C]	182[C]	1,560	173

State/Court name:	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL	6,848*		144*		6,992		
Supreme Court	237	1,378[1]	144	1,615[1]	381	COLR	1
Appellate Division of Superior Court	6,611[C]	N/A	(C)		6,611	IAC	1
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL							
Court of Appeals ..	N/A	N/A	N/A			COLR	5
Supreme Court	532[C]	(C)	N/A	532		IAC	5
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL	1,871*	1,308	66*	3,179*	1,937*		
Supreme Court	245	748	66	993	311	COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	1,626[B]	560	(B)	2,186[B]	1,626[B]	IAC	2
OHIO--STATE TOTAL ...	9,710	1,532	225	11,242	9,935		
Supreme Court	414	1,532	225	1,946	639	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	9,296	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	1
OREGON--STATE TOTAL .	4,276*	1,013		5,289	4,276		
Supreme Court	262[C]	1,013	(C)	1,275	262	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	4,014	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	1
SOUTH CAROLINA--							
Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A			COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	374	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	4
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL		1,976					
Supreme Court	N/A	1,095	N/A			COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	476	881	N/A	1,357		IAC	1
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL	3,447*	1,103*		4,550			
Supreme Court	209[P]	786[P]	62	995	271	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	3,238	317	N/A	3,555		IAC	1
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL		1,006		3,184			
Supreme Court	NH	765	178	--	--	COLR	5
Court of Appeals ..	2,178	241	N/A	2,419		IAC	1
STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	415[C]	3[V]	(C)	418	415	COLR	1
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Court of Appeals ..	1,568[C]	72	(C)	1,640	1,568	COLR	1

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	579[P]	(P)	N/A	579[1]	83[1]		
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court	1,010	3	N/A	1,013	113		
MONTANA--Supreme Court	566	36	N/A	602	86		
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	1,014[C]	(C)	N/A	1,014[C]	145[C]		
NEVADA--Supreme Court	853	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	NH	534[1]	N/A	--	--		
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	377	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	389	168	N/A	557	111		
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	363[C]	32[1]	N/A	395	79		
UTAH--Supreme Court	623	51	N/A	674	135		
VERMONT--Supreme Court	550	24	N/A	574	115		
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals	NH	1,585	580	--	--	--	--
WYOMING--Supreme Court	342	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL							
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL	2,894	763		3,657	215		
Supreme Court	827	763	N/A	1,590	177		
Court of Civil Appeals	530	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,537	NH	NH	--	--	--	--

	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	521[1]	67	N/A	588[1]		COLR	1
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court	912	3	3	915	915	COLR	2
MONTANA--Supreme Court	355	19	N/A	374		COLR	1
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	945[C]	(C)	(C)	945[C]		COLR	1
NEVADA--Supreme Court	854	NH	NH	--	--	COLR	2
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	NH	415[1]	N/A	--		COLR	1
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	357	NH	NH	--	--	COLR	1
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	478	199	N/A	677		COLR	2
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	419[C]	(C)	N/A	419		COLR	1
UTAH--Supreme Court .	565[C]	(C)	N/A	565		COLR	1
VERMONT--Supreme Court	535	21	N/A	556		COLR	1
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals ..	NH	1,396	498	--	--	COLR	1
WYOMING--Supreme Court	327	NH	NH	--	--	COLR	1
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL							
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL	3,233	582		3,815			
Supreme Court	940	582	N/A	1,522		COLR	1
Court of Civil Appeals	548	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,745	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	1

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
NEW YORK--							
Court of Appeals	680	N/A	N/A				
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A				
Appellate Terms of Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A				
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL	2,628*	340*	160	2,968	124	2,788	116
Supreme Court	788	340	77	1,128	125	865	96
Court of Criminal Appeals	869[C]	(C)	83	869	290	952	317
Court of Appeals	971	NH	NH	--	--	--	--
PENNSYLVANIA--							
STATE TOTAL	9,818*						
Supreme Court	92	3,709[C]	254[1]	3,801[C]	543[C]	346[1]	49[1]
Superior Court	5,989[C]	N/A	(C)			5,989	272
Commonwealth Court	3,737	N/A	N/A				
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL	2,204*	839*		3,043	117		
Supreme Court	146	765	N/A	911	182		
Court of Appeals	1,173	74	18	1,247	104	1,191	99
Court of Criminal Appeals	885[C]	(C)	N/A	885	98		
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL	10,055	2,588	352	12,643	129	10,407	106
Supreme Court	2	1,228	143	1,230	137	145	16
Court of Criminal Appeals	2,221	1,360	209	3,581	398	2,430	270
Courts of Appeals	7,832	NH	NH	--	--	--	--

NOTE: All available data that are at least 75% complete are included in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 75% complete or that the calculations are inappropriate.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of last resort
IAC = Intermediate appellate court
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court.
-- = Inapplicable

POINTS AT WHICH CASES ARE COUNTED:

1 = At the notice of appeal
2 = At the filing of trial record
3 = At the filing of trial record, and complete briefs
4 = At transfer
5 = Other
6 = Varies

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote will have impact on the state's total.

	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted review	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted review	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
NEW YORK--							
Court of Appeals ..	350	3,549	253	3,899	603	COLR	1
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court .	N/A	N/A	N/A			IAC	2
Appellate Terms of Supreme Court.....	N/A	N/A	N/A			IAC	2
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL	1,566*	1,403		2,969*			
Supreme Court	174[1]	1,139	N/A	1,313[1]		COLR	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	536	264	N/A	800		COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	856	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	4
PENNSYLVANIA--							
STATE TOTAL	11,585*						
Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A			COLR	6
Superior Court	7,410[C]	N/A	(C)		7,410	IAC	1
Commonwealth Court	4,175[C]	(C)	N/A	4,175		IAC	1
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL	2,276*	940*					
Supreme Court	(C)	866[C]	N/A	866		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	1,330	74	N/A	1,404		IAC	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	946[C]	(C)	N/A	946		IAC	1
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL ..	10,190	2,266	398	12,456	10,588		
Supreme Court	2	1,166	137	1,168	139	COLR	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	2,027	1,100	261	3,127	2,288	COLR	5
Courts of Appeals .	8,161	NH	NH	--	--	IAC	1

B: Data for the following courts represent some double counting (discretionary petitions that are granted review are counted once as a petition, and are then refiled as mandatory cases and cannot be separated from mandatory cases):
- Georgia--Court of Appeals
  - --Supreme Court
- Hawaii--Supreme Court
- Maryland--Court of Appeals
- Missouri--Supreme Court
- North Carolina--Court of Appeals

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory judge disciplinary cases.
- Colorado--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory jurisdiction cases.
- Connecticut--Appellate Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions that were granted review.
- Delaware--Supreme Court--Data include some discretionary petitions and discretionary petitions that were granted review.
- District of Columbia--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted review, and refiled as appeals.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

Georgia--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.
--Court of Appeals--Disposed data include all discretionary petitions.
Idaho--Supreme Court--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted review.
Illinois--Appellate Court--Data include all discretionary petitions.
Indiana--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary interlocutory decision petitions.
Iowa--Supreme Court--Data include some discretionary petitions that were dismissed by the Court.
Kansas--Court of Appeals--Data include a few discretionary petitions that were granted review.
Massachusetts--Appeals Court--Data include a small number of discretionary interlocutory decision petitions.
Michigan--Supreme Court--Data include a few mandatory jurisdiction cases.
--Court of Appeals--Total mandatory data include discretionary petitions.
Nebraska--Supreme Court--Data include all discretionary petitions, and disposed discretionary petitions granted review.
New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court--Data include discretionary interlocutory decisions that were granted review.
New Mexico--Court of Appeals--Data include all discretionary petitions.
North Carolina--Court of Appeals--Data include some situations where relief, not review, was granted.
Oklahoma--Court of Criminal Appeals--Data include all discretionary petitions.
Oregon--Supreme Court--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted review.
Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Data include some motions that could not be separated from caseload.
--Superior Court--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted review.
--Commonwealth Court--Data include all discretionary petitions.
South Dakota--Data include discretionary advisory opinions. Mandatory jurisdiction dispositions include all discretionary petitions.
Tennessee--Supreme Court--Data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.
--Court of criminal Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions.
Utah--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all discretionary petitions.

D: Data for the following court are overinclusive and represent some double counting (discretionary petitions that are granted review are counted once as a petition and then are refiled as mandatory cases and cannot be separated from mandatory cases):
North Carolina--Court of Appeals--Data include some situations where relief, not review, was granted.

1: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
Arizona--Supreme Court--Data do not include mandatory judge disciplinary cases.
Arkansas--Supreme Court--The sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions does not include mandatory attorney disciplinary cases, and certified questions from the federal courts.
California--Supreme Court--Total mandatory filed data do not include mandatory judge disciplinary cases. Total discretionary petitions granted review data do not include original proceedings initially heard in Supreme Court that were granted and administrative agency cases.
Delaware--Supreme Court--Data do not include some discretionary interlocutory decision cases, which are reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases.
Indiana--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary criminal petitions.
Iowa--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary petitions that were dismissed by the court, which are reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases. Discretionary petitions granted review do not include some discretionary original proceedings which are reported with unclassified discretionary cases.
Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Data do not include mandatory disciplinary and advisory opinion cases.
Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Total discretionary petitions do not include discretionary petitions of final judgments that were denied review. Total discretionary petitions granted review do not include other discretionary petitions granted review.
Missouri--Supreme Court--Data do not include a few discretionary original proceedings.
New Hampshire--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary judge disciplinary cases.
New Jersey--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary interlocutory decisions.
Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Data do not include mandatory appeals of final judgments, mandatory disciplinary cases and mandatory interlocutory decisions.

Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Discretionary petitions granted review do not include original proceeding petitions that were granted review.

South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data do not include advisory opinions reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases.

Virginia--Court of Appeals--Data do not include original proceeding petitions granted review.

P: The following courts' data are 75% complete and overinclusive:

Arkansas--Supreme Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions, but do not include mandatory attorney disciplinary cases and certified questions from the federal courts.

Connecticut--Supreme Court--Data include some mandatory cases left from the previous year, but do not include some unclassified appeals and judge disciplinary cases, and only include those cases heard by the Court.

Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Total mandatory jurisdiction filed data include discretionary petitions but do not include mandatory disciplinary and advisory opinion cases.

Washington--Supreme Court--Mandatory jurisdiction data include some discretionary petitions, but do not include mandatory certified questions from the federal courts. Total discretionary petitions include mandatory certified questions from federal courts, but do not include some discretionary petitions reported with mandatory jurisdiction caseload.

V: The following court's data are less than 75% complete:

Delaware--Supreme Court

TABLE 3: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1986

		Mandatory cases					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL		823	944		8	103	154
Supreme Court	COLR	318	355	112%	5	64	60
Court of Appeals	IAC	505	589	117%	3	168	95
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL		3,470[*]	3,515[*]		20	174	105
Supreme Court	COLR	118[1]	70[1]	59%	5	24	4
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,352	3,445	103%	15	223	101
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL		1,362[*]	1,244[*]		13	105	58
Supreme Court	COLR	411[P]	404[P]	98%	7	59	17
Court of Appeals	IAC	951	840	88%	6	159	40
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL		10,271[*]			84	122	38
Supreme Court	COLR	236[1]	N/A		7	34	1
Courts of Appeal	IAC	10,035	N/A		77	130	37
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL		2,067			17	122	63
Supreme Court	COLR	205	(C)		7	29	6
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,862	1,590	85%	10	186	57
CONNECTICUT--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A		6		
Appellate Court	IAC	953[C]	1,055[C]	111%	5	191	30
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL		14,131	13,491		53	267	121
Supreme Court	COLR	629	644	102%	7	90	5
District Courts of Appeal.	IAC	13,502	12,847	95%	46	294	116
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL		3,282[*]			16	205	54
Supreme Court	COLR	616[B]	(C)		7	88	10
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,666[B]	2,545[C]	95%	9	296	44
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL		736[*]	823[*]		8	92	69
Supreme Court	COLR	604[B]	691[B]	114%	5	121	57
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	132	132	100%	3	44	12
IDAHO--STATE TOTAL		462[*]	533[*]		8	58	46
Supreme Court	COLR	288[C]	359[C]	125%	5	58	29
Court of Appeals	IAC	174	174	100%	3	58	17

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Mandatory cases					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
ILLINOIS--STATE TOTAL		8,113*	7,537*		41	198	70
Supreme Court	COLR	563	530	94%	7	80	5
Appellate Court	IAC	7,550[C]	7,007[C]	93%	34	222	65
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL			1,586*		17	(93)	(29)
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	470		5	(94)	(9)
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,073[C]	1,116[C]	104%	12	89	20
IOWA--STATE TOTAL		2,080	1,522*		15	139	73
Supreme Court	COLR	1,528	933[C]	61%	9	170	54
Court of Appeals	IAC	552	589	107%	6	92	19
KANSAS--STATE TOTAL		1,320*	1,437*		14	94	54
Supreme Court	COLR	189	331	175%	7	27	7
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,131[C]	1,106[C]	98%	7	162	46
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL		3,020	2,914		21	144	81
Supreme Court	COLR	251	253	101%	7	36	7
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,769	2,661	96%	14	198	74
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL		3,807	4,015		55	69	85
Supreme Court	COLR	112	71	63%	7	16	2
Courts of Appeal	IAC	3,695	3,944	107%	48	77	82
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL		1,882*	1,740*		20	94	42
Court of Appeals	COLR	238[B]	188[B]	79%	7	34	5
Court of Special Appeals .	IAC	1,644	1,552	94%	13	126	37
MASSACHUSETTS--STATE TOTAL .		1,438*			17	85	25
Supreme Judicial Court ...	COLR	86	N/A		7	12	1
Appeals Court	IAC	1,352[C]	N/A		10	135	23
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL		7,970*			25	319	87
Supreme Court	COLR	4	(C)		7	1	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	7,966[C]	6,573[C]	83%	18	443	87
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL		1,942	2,005		20	97	46
Supreme Court	COLR	175	157	90%	8	22	4
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,767	1,848	105%	12	147	42
MISSOURI--STATE TOTAL		3,311*	3,321*		39	85	65
Supreme Court	COLR	164[B]	115[B]	70%	7	23	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,147	3,206	102%	32	98	62

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Mandatory cases					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (dis-posed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL		6,342*	6,848*		35	181	83
Supreme Court	COLR	236	237	100%	7	34	3
Appellate Division of Superior Court	IAC	6,106[C]	6,611[C]	108%	28	218	80
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL		1,415			12	118	96
Supreme Court	COLR	744	N/A		5	149	50
Court of Appeals	IAC	671	532[C]	79%	7	96	46
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL.		1,630*	1,871*		19	86	26
Supreme Court	COLR	249	245	98%	7	36	4
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,381[B]	1,626[B]	118%	12	115	22
OHIO--STATE TOTAL		10,174	9,710		60	170	95
Supreme Court	COLR	491	414	84%	7	70	5
Court of Appeals	IAC	9,683	9,296	96%	53	183	90
OREGON--STATE TOTAL		4,291	4,276*		17	252	159
Supreme Court	COLR	145	262[C]	181%	7	21	5
Court of Appeals	IAC	4,146	4,014	97%	10	415	154
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL.		870			11	79	26
Supreme Court	COLR	519	N/A		5	104	15
Court of Appeals	IAC	351	374	107%	6	59	10
VIRGINIA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A		7		
Court of Appeals	IAC	419	476	114%	10	42	7
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL		3,697*	3,447*		25	148	83
Supreme Court	COLR	162[P]	209[P]	129%	9	18	4
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,535	3,238	92%	16	221	79
WISCONSIN-- Court of Appeals	IAC	2,053	2,178	106%	13	158	43
		STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT					
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	COLR	417[C]	415[C]	100%	5	83	66
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Court of Appeals	COLR	1,560[C]	1,568[C]	101%	9	173	250

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Mandatory cases					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	COLR	579[P]	521[1]	90%	7	83	49
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court	COLR	1,010	912	90%	9	112	38
MONTANA--Supreme Court	COLR	566	355	63%	7	81	69
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court ...	COLR	1,014[C]	945[C]	93%	7	145	63
NEVADA--Supreme Court	COLR	853	854	100%	5	171	88
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	377	357	95%	5	75	56
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	COLR	389	478	123%	5	78	40
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	363[C]	419[C]		5	73	51
UTAH--Supreme Court	COLR	623	555[C]		5	125	37
VERMONT--Supreme Court	COLR	550	535	97%	5	110	102
WYOMING--Supreme Court	COLR	342	327	96%	5	68	67
		STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL					
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL		2,894	3,233		17	170	71
Supreme Court	COLR	827	940	114%	9	92	20
Court of Civil Appeals ...	IAC	530	548	103%	3	177	13
Court of Criminal Appeals.	IAC	1,537	1,745	114%	5	307	38
NEW YORK--							
Court of Appeals	COLR	680	350	52%	7	97	4
Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court	IAC	N/A	N/A		45		
Appellate Terms of the Supreme Court	IAC	N/A	N/A		15		
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL		2,628[*]	1,566[*]		24	110	80
Supreme Court	COLR	788	174[1]	22%	9	88	24
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	869[C]	536	62%	3	290	26
Court of Appeals	IAC	971	856	88%	12	81	29

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Mandatory cases					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
PENNSYLVANIA--STATE TOTAL ..		9,818[*]			31	317	83
Supreme Court	COLR	92	N/A		7	13	1
Superior Court	IAC	5,989[C]	7,410[C]	124%	15	399	50
Commonwealth Court	IAC	3,737	4,175[C]	112%	9	415	31
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL		2,204[*]			26	85	46
Supreme Court	COLR	146	(C)		5	29	3
Court of Criminal Appeals.	IAC	885[C]	946[C]	107%	9	98	18
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,173	1,330	113%	12	98	24
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL		10,055	10,190		98	103	60
Supreme Court	COLR	2	2	100%	9	1	0
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	2,221	2,027	91%	9	247	13
Courts of Appeals	IAC	7,832	8,161	104%	80	98	47

NOTE: All available data that are at least 75% complete are included in the table. N/A indicates that either the data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States and/or courts omitted from this table did not specifically report caseload data on mandatory cases, or did not have mandatory jurisdiction. State courts with mandatory jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts identified in Part III of this Report.

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

*See the qualifying footnote written for each court in the state. Each footnote will have an impact on the state total.

B: Data for the following courts represent some double counting. Discretionary petitions that are granted review are counted once as a petition and then are refiled as mandatory cases and cannot be separated from mandatory cases:
Georgia--Court of Appeals
--Supreme Court
Hawaii--Supreme Court
Maryland--Court of Appeals
Missouri--Supreme Court
North Carolina--Court of Appeals

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
Connecticut--Appellate Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions that were granted review.
Delaware--Supreme Court--Data include some discretionary petitions and discretionary petitions that were granted review.
District of Columbia--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary cases that were granted review, and refiled as appeals.
Georgia--Court of Appeals--Mandatory jurisdiction disposed data include all discretionary cases.
Idaho--Supreme Court--Data include discretionary petitions reviewed on their merits.
Illinois--Appellate Court--Data include discretionary petitions.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

Indiana--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary interlocutory decision cases.

Iowa--Supreme Court--Disposed data include some discretionary cases that were dismissed.

Kansas--Court of Appeals--Data include a few discretionary cases that were granted review.

Massachusetts--Appeals Court--Data include a small number of discretionary interlocutory decision petitions.

Michigan--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions.

Nebraska--Supreme Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions, and disposed discretionary petitions granted review.

New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court--Data include discretionary interlocutory petitions that were granted review.

New Mexico--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions.

Oklahoma--Court of Criminal Appeals--Data include all discretionary jurisdiction cases.

Oregon--Supreme Court--Disposed data include discretionary petitions that were granted review.

Pennsylvania--Superior Court--Data include final decisions of discretionary petitions that were granted review.
--Commonwealth Court--Data include discretionary petitions.

South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data include all discretionary jurisdiction cases.

Tennessee--Court of Criminal Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions.

Utah--Supreme Court--Disposed data include discretionary petitions.

1: The following courts' data are 75% complete:

Arizona--Supreme Court--Data do not include judge disciplinary cases.

Arkansas--Supreme Court--Data do not include mandatory attorney disciplinary cases or certified questions from the federal courts which were unreported for this year.

California--Supreme Court--Data do not include judge disciplinary cases.

Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Disposed data do not include disciplinary or advisory opinion cases.

Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include mandatory appeals of final judgments, mandatory disciplinary cases, and mandatory interlocutory decisions.

P: The following courts' data are 75% complete and overinclusive:

Arkansas--Supreme Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions, but do not include mandatory attorney disciplinary cases and certified questions from the federal courts.

Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Filed data include discretionary petition cases, but do not include mandatory disciplinary and advisory opinion cases.

Washington--Supreme Court--Data include some discretionary petitions, but do not include certified questions from the federal courts.

TABLE 4: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1986

State/Court name:	Court type	Discretionary petitions					
		Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (dis- posed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL		396	389		8	50	74
Supreme Court	COLR	313	290	93%	5	63	59
Court of Appeals	IAC	83	99	119%	3	28	16
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL		1,205*	1,204*		20	60	36
Supreme Court	COLR	1,156[C]	1,156[C]	100%	5	231	35
Court of Appeals	IAC	49	48	98%	15	3	1
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL		11,042			84	131	41
Supreme Court	COLR	4,808	N/A		7	687	18
Courts of Appeal	IAC	6,234	N/A		77	81	23
COLORADO--Supreme Court	COLR	783	973[C]	124%	7	112	24
CONNECTICUT--STATE TOTAL ...		251*	338*		11	23	8
Supreme Court	COLR	204[P]	338[P]	166%	6	34	6
Appellate Court	IAC	47	N/A		5	9	1
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL		3,391	3,011		53	64	29
Supreme Court	COLR	1,097	1,260	115%	7	157	9
District Courts of Appeal.	IAC	2,294	1,751	76%	46	50	20
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL		1,627			16	102	27
Supreme Court	COLR	980	1,656[C]	169%	7	140	16
Court of Appeals	IAC	647	N/A		9	72	11
HAWAII--Supreme Court	COLR	43	45	105%	5	9	4
IDAHO--Supreme Court	COLR	77	71	92%	5	15	8
ILLINOIS--Supreme Court	COLR	1,637	1,622	99%	7	234	14
INDIANA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	355[1]		5	(71)	(6)
IOWA--Supreme Court	COLR	352	520[1]	148%	9	39	12
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL		941	1,005		21	45	25
Supreme Court	COLR	847	898	106%	7	121	23
Court of Appeals	IAC	94	107	114%	14	7	3

(continued on next page)

TABLE 4: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL		5,471	5,165		55	99	122
Supreme Court	COLR	2,455	2,230	91%	7	351	55
Courts of Appeal	IAC	3,016	2,935	97%	48	63	67
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL		847	885		20	42	19
Court of Appeals	COLR	607	700	115%	7	87	14
Court of Special Appeals .	IAC	240	185	77%	13	18	5
MASSACHUSETTS--Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	1,473	N/A		7	210	25
MICHIGAN--Supreme Court	COLR	2,042	2,397[c]	117%	7	292	22
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL		879	883		20	44	21
Supreme Court	COLR	589	622	106%	8	74	14
Court of Appeals	IAC	290[1]	261[1]	90%	12	24	7
MISSOURI-- Supreme Court	COLR	989	953[1]	96%	7	141	20
NEW JERSEY--Supreme Court ..	COLR	1,382[1]	1,378[1]	100%	7	197	18
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL		254			12	21	17
Supreme Court	COLR	202	N/A		5	40	14
Court of Appeals	IAC	52	N/A		7	8	4
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL.		1,281	1,308		19	67	20
Supreme Court	COLR	735	748	102%	7	105	12
Court of Appeals	IAC	546	560	103%	12	46	9
OHIO--Supreme Court	COLR	1,733	1,532	88%	7	248	16
OREGON--Supreme Court	COLR	990	1,013	102%	7	141	37
SOUTH CAROLINA--Supreme Court	COLR	24	N/A		5	5	1
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL		2,306	1,976		17	136	40
Supreme Court	COLR	1,193	1,095	92%	7	170	21
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,113	881	79%	10	111	19
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL		1,268*	1,103*		25	51	28
Supreme Court	COLR	897[p]	786[p]	88%	9	100	20
Court of Appeals	IAC	371	317	85%	16	23	8

(continued on next page)

TABLE 4: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL		1,077	1,006	93%	20	54	23
Supreme Court	COLR	836	765	92%	7	119	17
Court of Appeals	IAC	241	241	100%	13	19	5
STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	COLR	3[v]	3[v]	100%	5		
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Court of Appeals	COLR	76	72	95%	9	8	12
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	N/A	67		7	(10)	(6)
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court .	COLR	3	3	100%	9	.3	.1
MONTANA--Supreme Court	COLR	36	19	53%	7	5	4
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	COLR	534[1]	415[1]	78%	5	107	52
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	COLR	168	199	118%	5	34	17
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	32[1]	N/A		5	6	5
UTAH--Supreme Court	COLR	51	N/A		5	10	3
VERMONT--Supreme Court	COLR	24	21	88%	5	5	4
WEST VIRGINIA-- Supreme Court of Appeals .	COLR	1,585	1,396	88%	5	317	83
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL							
ALABAMA--Supreme Court	COLR	763	582	76%	9	85	19
NEW YORK--Court of Appeals .	COLR	N/A	3,549		7	(507)	(20)
OKLAHOMA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	340	1,139	335%	9	38	10
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	N/A	264		3	(88)	(8)

(continued on next page)

TABLE 4: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
PENNSYLVANIA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	3,709[C]	N/A		7	530	31
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL		839	940*	112%	17	49	
Supreme Court	COLR	765	866[C]	113%	5	153	16
Court of Appeals	IAC	74	74	100%	12	6	2
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL		2,588	2,266		18	144	
Supreme Court	COLR	1,228	1,166	95%	9	136	7
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	1,360	1,100	81%	9	151	8

NOTE: All available data that are at least 75% complete are included in the table. N/A indicates that either the data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States and/or courts omitted from this table did not specifically report caseload data on discretionary petitions, or did not have discretionary jurisdiction. State courts with discretionary jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts identified in Part III of this Report.

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

*See the qualifying footnote written for each court in the state. Each footnote will have an impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory judge disciplinary cases.
- Georgia--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.
- Michigan--Supreme Court--Disposed data include a few mandatory jurisdiction cases.
- Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Data include noncase motions that could not be separated from the caseload.
- Tennessee--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.

I: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
- Indiana--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include criminal petitions.
- Iowa--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include discretionary cases that were dismissed by the court.
- Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Data do not include petitions of final judgments that were denied review.
- Missouri--Supreme Court--Disposition data do not include a few original proceedings.
- New Hampshire--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary judge disciplinary cases.
- New Jersey--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary interlocutory decision petitions which could not be separated from a "motions" category.
- South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data do not include advisory opinions which are reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases.

P: The following courts' data are 75% complete and overinclusive:
- Connecticut--Supreme Court--Data include some mandatory cases left from the previous year, but do not include some unclassified appeals and judge disciplinary cases, and only include those cases heard by the Court.
- Washington--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory certified questions from the federal courts, but do not include some discretionary petitions.

V: Data are less than 75% complete:
- Delaware--Supreme Court--Both filing and disposition data.

TABLE 5: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted Review in State Appellate Courts, 1986

State/Court name:	Court type	Discretionary petitions granted review					Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
		Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ARIZONA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	124[c]		5	(25)	(4)
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL		892*			84	11	3
Supreme Court	COLR	278[1]	N/A		7	40	1
Courts of Appeal	IAC	614	N/A		77	8	2
GEORGIA-- Supreme Court	COLR	127	N/A		7	18	2
HAWAII--Supreme Court	COLR	7	N/A		5	1	1
ILLINOIS--Supreme Court	COLR	156	162	104%	7	22	1
INDIANA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	147		5	(29)	(3)
IOWA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	70[1]		9	(8)	
KANSAS--Supreme Court	COLR	151	N/A		7	22	6
KENTUCKY--Supreme Court	COLR	135	N/A		7	19	4
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL		1,276	1,302	102%	55	23	28
Supreme Court	COLR	427	451	106%	7	61	9
Courts of Appeal	IAC	849	851	100%	48	18	19
MARYLAND-- Court of Appeals	COLR	104	N/A		7	15	2
MASSACHUSETTS--Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	205	N/A		7	29	4
MICHIGAN--Supreme Court	COLR	124	N/A		7	18	1

(continued on next page)

TABLE 5: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions granted review in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions granted review					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL		216			20	11	5
Supreme Court	COLR	126	N/A		8	16	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	90[1]	91[1]	101%	12	8	2
MISSOURI--Supreme Court	COLR	66	N/A		7	9	1
NEW JERSEY--Supreme Court ..	COLR	N/A	144		7	(21)	(2)
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL		80			12	7	5
Supreme Court	COLR	67	N/A		5	13	5
Court of Appeals	IAC	13	N/A		7	2	1
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL.		207*			19	11	3
Supreme Court	COLR	57	66	116%	7	8	1
Court of Appeals	IAC	150	N/A		12	13	2
OHIO--Supreme Court	COLR	202	225	111%	7	29	2
OREGON--Supreme Court	COLR	140	N/A		7	20	5
SOUTH CAROLINA--Supreme Court	COLR	24	N/A		5	5	1
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL		426*			17	25	7
Supreme Court	COLR	191	N/A		7	27	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	235[1]	N/A		10	24	4
WASHINGTON--Supreme Court ..	COLR	N/A	62		9	(7)	(1)
WISCONSIN--Supreme Court ...	COLR	103	178	173%	7	15	2
	STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT						
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court .	COLR	N/A	3		9	(.3)	(0)
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals	COLR	580	498	86%	5	116	30

(continued on next page)

TABLE 5: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions granted review in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Discretionary petitions granted review Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL							
NEW YORK--Court of Appeals .	COLR	N/A	253		7	(36)	(1)
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL		160					
Supreme Court	COLR	77	N/A		9	9	2
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	83	N/A		3	28	3
PENNSYLVANIA-- Supreme Court	COLR	254[1]	N/A		7	36	2
TENNESSEE-- Court of Appeals	IAC	18	N/A		12	2	.4
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL		352	398	113%			
Supreme Court	COLR	143	137	96%	9	16	1
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	209	261	125%	9	23	1

NOTE: All available data that are at least 75% complete are included in the table. N/A indicates that either the data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States and/or courts omitted from this table did not specifically report caseload data on discretionary petitions granted review, or did not have discretionary jurisdiction. State courts with discretionary jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts identified in Part III of this Report.

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court in the state. Each footnote will have an impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory judge disciplinary cases.

1: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
California--Supreme Court--Data do not include original proceedings initially heard in the Supreme Court that were granted review.
Iowa--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include some original proceedings.
Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Data do not include some petitions.
Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Data do not include original proceedings petitions that were granted review.
Virginia--Court of Appeals--Data do not include original proceedings petitions granted review.

TABLE 6: Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts in 1986

State/Court name:	Court type	Civil appeals	Criminal appeals	Administrative agency appeals	All other case-types	Total dispositions by opinion	Total mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions disposed
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	158	645
Court of Appeals	IAC	--	X	--	X	149	688
ARIZONA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	142	1,226
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	366	3,493
ARKANSAS--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	354	404[1]
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	548	840
CALIFORNIA--Supreme Court ..	COLR	X	X	X	X	144	N/A
Courts of Appeal	IAC	X	X	X	X	9,458	N/A
COLORADO--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	207	973
Courts of Appeal	IAC	X	X	X	X	950	1,590
CONNECTICUT--Supreme Court .	COLR	123	87	X	--	230	338[1]
Appellate Court	IAC	314	40	X	X	487	1,055[1]
FLORIDA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	602	1,904
District Courts of Appeal	IAC	X	X	X	X	8,678	14,598
GEORGIA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	331	1,656[8]
HAWAII--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	377	736[8]
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	124	132
IDAHO--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	174	430[8]
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	168	174
ILLINOIS--Appellate Court ..	IAC	X	X	X	X	1,761	7,007
INDIANA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	445	825
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	1,099	1,116
IOWA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	272	1,453
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	518	589
KANSAS--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	268[1]	331[1]
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	728	1,106[1]

State/Court name:	Opinion count is by: case	Opinion count is by: written document	Does the opinion count include? Majority opinion	Does the opinion count include? Per curiam opinion	Does the opinion count include? Memos/ orders	Number of justices/ judges	Number of opinions per justice/judge	Number of lawyer support personnel
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT								
ALASKA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	0	5	32	11
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	3	50	9
ARIZONA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	5	28	16
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	15	24	42
ARKANSAS--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	X	7	--	15
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	0	6	90	16
CALIFORNIA--Supreme Court ..	X	0	X	X	some	7	21	50
Courts of Appeal	X	0	X	X	some	77	123	206
COLORADO--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	7	30	14
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	some	10	--	26
CONNECTICUT--Supreme Court .	X	0	X	X	some	6	38	11
Appellate Court	X	0	X	X	some	5	97	9
FLORIDA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	7	86	15
District Courts of Appeal	X	0	X	X	0	46	189	102
GEORGIA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	7	47	17
HAWAII--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	5	75	13
Intermediate Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	X	3	41	6
IDAHO--Supreme Court	0	X	X	X	X	5	35	11
Court of Appeals	0	X	X	X	0	3	56	6
ILLINOIS--Appellate Court ..	X	0	X	X	some	34	52	88
INDIANA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	5	89	11
Court of Appeals	X	X	X	X	X	12	92	36
IOWA--Supreme Court	0	X	X	0	0	9	30	16
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	6	86	6
KANSAS--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	7	38[1]	7
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	7	104	15

(continued on next page)

TABLE 6: Opinions reported by state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Civil appeals	Criminal appeals	Administrative agency appeals	All other case-types	Total dispositions by opinion	Total mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions disposed
KENTUCKY--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	335	1,151
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	2,064	2,768
LOUISIANA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	165	2,301
Courts of Appeal	IAC	X	X	X	X	3,601	6,879
MARYLAND--Court of Appeals	COLR	X	X	X	X	104	888[B]
MASSACHUSETTS--Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	279	N/A
Appeals Court	IAC	X	X	X	X	190	N/A
MICHIGAN--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	115	2,397
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	3,858	6,573
MINNESOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	318	779
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	2,082	2,109[1]
MISSOURI--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	72	1,071[B]
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	1,675	3,206
NEW JERSEY--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	58	1,615[1]
Appellate Division of Superior Court	IAC	X	X	X	X	3,801[C]	6,611[1]
NEW MEXICO--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	158	N/A
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	121	532
NORTH CAROLINA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	170	993
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	1,493	2,186[B]
OHIO--Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	4,464	9,296
OREGON--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	134	1,275
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	641	4,014
SOUTH CAROLINA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	696	696[1]
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	374	374

State/Court name:	Opinion count is by:		Does the opinion count include?			Number of justices/ judges	Number of opinions per justice/judge	Number of lawyer support personnel
	case	written document	Majority opinion	Per curiam opinion	Memos/ orders			
KENTUCKY--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	7	48	11
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	14	147	22
LOUISIANA--Supreme Court ...	0	X	X	X	some	7	24	26
Courts of Appeal	0	X	X	X	X	48	75	102
MARYLAND--Court of Appeals .	X	0	X	0	0	7	15	17
MASSACHUSETTS--Supreme Judicial Court	0	X	X	0	0	7	40	20
Appeals Court	0	X	X	0	0	10	19	27
MICHIGAN--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	7	16	15
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	18	214	84
MINNESOTA--Supreme Court ...	X	0	X	0	0	7	45	11
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	12	174	34
MISSOURI--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	7	10	10
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	32	52	74
NEW JERSEY--Supreme Court ..	0	X	X	0	0	7	8	18
Appellate Division of Superior Court	X	0	X	X	X	28	136	45
NEW MEXICO--Supreme Court ..	X	0	X	0	some	5	32	10
Court of Appeals	0	X	X	0	0	7	17	20
NORTH CAROLINA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	some	7	24	14
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	X	12	124	28
OHIO--Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	X	53	84	54
OREGON--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	7	19	9
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	10	64	18
SOUTH CAROLINA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	5	139	19
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	0	6	56	11

(continued on next page)

TABLE 6: Opinions reported by state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Civil appeals	Criminal appeals	Administrative agency appeals	All other case-types	Total dispositions by opinion	Total mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions disposed
VIRGINIA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	152	1,095[1]
WASHINGTON--Supreme Court ..	COLR	X	X	X	X	197	995
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	1,195	3,555
WISCONSIN--Supreme Court ...	COLR	X	X	X	X	94	765
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	X	X	X	1,097	2,419
STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	57	418
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Court of Appeals	COLR	X	X	X	X	279	1,567[1]
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	234[1]	588[1]
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court .	COLR	X	X	X	X	476	915
MONTANA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	374	374
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	441	945[B]
NEVADA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	138	854
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	209	415[1]
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court.	COLR	X	X	X	X	263[C]	357
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court.	COLR	100	28	6	4	134	677
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court.	COLR	X	X	X	X	252[C]	419
UTAH--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	265	565
VERMONT--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	146	556[B]

State/Court name:	Opinion count is by:		Does the opinion count include?			Number of justices/judges	Number of opinions per justice/judge	Number of lawyer support personnel
	case	written document	Majority opinion	Per curiam opinion	Memos/orders			
VIRGINIA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	7	22	23
WASHINGTON--Supreme Court ..	X	0	X	X	some	9	22	23
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	16	75	32
WISCONSIN--Supreme Court ...	X	0	X	X	0	7	13	10
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	13	84	25
STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT								
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	0	5	11	5
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	0	9	31	25
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	0	X	X	0	0	7	33[1]	11
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court .	X	0	X	0	X	9	53	20
MONTANA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	0	7	53	14
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	X	7	63	14
NEVADA--Supreme Court	0	X	X	X	0	5	28	20
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	5	42	10
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court.	X	0	X	X	0	5	53[c]	10
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court.	X	0	X	X	some	5	27	17
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court.	X	0	X	X	0	5	50	8
UTAH--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	5	53	12
VERMONT--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	0	5	29	8

(continued on next page)

TABLE 6: Opinions reported by state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Civil appeals	Criminal appeals	Administrative agency appeals	All other case-types	Total dispositions by opinion	Total mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions disposed
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals	COLR	X	X	X	X	213	1,396
WYOMING--Supreme Court	COLR	X	X	X	X	207	327
	STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL						
ALABAMA--Supreme Court	COLR					581	1,522
Court of Civil Appeals ...	IAC	X	--	X	X	368	548
Court of Criminal Appeals.	IAC	--	504	--	X	534	1,745
NEW YORK--Court of Appeals .	COLR	X	X	X	X	107	3,899
OKLAHOMA--Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	X	X	715	1,313[1]
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	X	X	851	856
PENNSYLVANIA--Supreme Court.	COLR	X	X	X	X	290	N/A
Superior Court	IAC	X	X	0	X	5,032	7,410[1]
Commonwealth Court	IAC	X	X	X	X	1,541	4,175
TENNESSEE--Supreme Court ...	COLR	X	X	X	X	152	866
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	X	X	1,141	1,404
Court of Criminal Appeals.	IAC	0	0	X	X	849	946
TEXAS--Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	X	X	84	1,168
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	0	X	0	X	229	3,127
Courts of Civil Appeals ..	IAC	X	X	X	X	4,773	8,161

NOTE: All available data that are at least 75% complete are included in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either the data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. States and/or courts omitted from this table did not specifically report caseload data on mandatory cases, or did not have mandatory jurisdiction. State courts with mandatory jurisdiction can be identified in the state court system charts identified in Part III of this Report.

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court
X = Court has jurisdiction
0 = Court does not have jurisdiction
-- = Data not applicable
N/A = Data not available

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

B: The following courts' data are complete with some double-counting:
Georgia--Supreme Court--Court of Appeals
Hawaii--Supreme Court
Idaho--Supreme Court
Maryland--Court of Appeals
Missouri--Supreme Court
North Carolina--Court of Appeals
Vermont--Supreme Court

State/Court name:	Opinion count is by:		Does the opinion count include?			Number of justices/judges	Number of opinions per justice/judge	Number of lawyer support personnel
	case	written document	Majority opinion	Per curiam opinion	Memos/orders			
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	5	43	20
WYOMING--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	5	41	12
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL								
ALABAMA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	9	65	18
Court of Civil Appeals	X	0	X	X	X	3	123	6
Court of Criminal Appeals	X	0	X	0	some	5	107	10
NEW YORK--Court of Appeals	0	X	X	0	0	7	15	28
OKLAHOMA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	9	79	16
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	X	12	71	12
PENNSYLVANIA--Supreme Court			X	0	0	7	41	33.5
Superior Court	X	0	X	X	X	22	229	85.5
Commonwealth Court	0	X	X	X	X	12	128	51
TENNESSEE--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	5	30	9
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	12	95	12
Court of Criminal Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	9	94	9
TEXAS--Supreme Court	0	X	X	0	0	9	9	26
Court of Criminal Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	9	25	24
Courts of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	80	60	137

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court--Total mandatory jurisdiction cases include discretionary petitions that were granted review.
- North Dakota--Supreme Court--Opinion and order manners of disposition include preargument dispositions.
- South Dakota--Supreme Court--Civil and criminal appeals disposed of by opinion include appeals of administrative agency and juvenile cases, and interlocutory decisions.

1: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
- Arkansas--Supreme Court--Grand total cases do not include attorney disciplinary cases, certified questions from the federal courts, which were unreported for this year, and a small number of discretionary petitions that were denied review or dismissed.
- Connecticut--Supreme Court--Grand total cases include only those cases heard by the court, and do not include some unclassified appeals and judge disciplinary cases.
  - --Appellate Court--Grand total cases disposed do not include discretionary petitions that were denied or dismissed.

TABLE 6: Opinions reported by state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

District of Columbia--Court of Appeals--Grand total disposed cases do not include petitions of final judgements.

Indiana--Supreme Court--Grand total cases do not include discretionary criminal petitions.

Kansas--Supreme Court--Grand total cases do not include attorney disciplinary cases, certified questions from the federal courts, which were unreported for this year, and a small number of discretionary petitions that were denied review or dismissed.

--Court of Appeals--Grand total cases do not include the few petitions for review that were denied access.

Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Grand total cases do not include mandatory disciplinary and mandatory advisory opinions.

Minnesota--Court of Appeals-Grand total cases do not include discretionary petitions of final judgments that were denied review.

New Hampshire--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary judge disciplinary petitions.

Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Grand total cases disposed do not include disciplinary cases.

Pennsylvania--Superior Court--Grand total cases do not include petitions for review that were denied.

South Carolina--Supreme Court--Grand total disposed cases do not include discretionary petitions that were denied review, or otherwise dismissed/withdrawn/settled.

Virginia--Supreme Court--Grand total cases do not include mandatory jurisdiction cases.

TABLE 7: Reported National Civil and Criminal Caseload for State Trial Courts, 1986

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
Civil cases:		
I. General jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete and comparable cases	1,828,223	1,472,883
Number of reported complete cases that are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases	1,774,778	1,574,617
Total number of reported complete cases	3,603,001	3,047,500
Number of courts reporting complete civil data	27	26
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete data	23	22
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data	44%	46%
B. Number of reported complete and comparable civil cases that include other casetypes	93,804	93,012
Number of reported complete civil cases that include other casetypes, but are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases	2,523,384	1,866,871
Total number of reported complete civil cases that include other casetypes	2,617,188	1,959,883
Number of courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	21	15
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	21	15
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	33%	27%
C. Number of reported cases that are comparable but are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	839,143	851,752
Number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes, but are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases	899,415	1,250,175
Total number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	1,738,558	2,101,927
Number of courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	7	12
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	7	12
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	22%	24%
II. Limited jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete and comparable cases	5,954,025	4,551,549
Number of reported complete cases that are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases	496,833	476,055
Total number of reported complete cases	6,450,858	5,027,604
Number of courts reporting complete civil data	50	41
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete data	28	25
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data	66%	60%
B. Number of reported complete and comparable civil cases that include other casetypes	531,670	616,887
Number of reported complete civil cases that include other casetypes, but are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases	0	0
Total number of reported complete civil cases that include other casetypes.	531,670	616,887
Number of courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	6	7
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	6	7
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	19%	21%

(continued on next page)

TABLE 7: Reported national civil and criminal caseload for state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
C. Number of reported cases that are comparable but are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	745,755	663,384
Number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes, but are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases	8,216	2,730
Total number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	753,971	666,114
Number of courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	13	12
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	8	9
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	18%	29%
Criminal Cases		
I. General jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete and comparable cases	1,136,868	772,853
Number of courts reporting complete and comparable data	18	16
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete and comparable data	18	16
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data	48%	45%
B. Number of reported complete criminal cases that include other casetypes	489,353	487,051
Number of courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	16	15
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data	15	14
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	16%	16%
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncriminal casetypes	1,344,331	1,219,563
Number of courts reporting either incomplete data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	18	20
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting either incomplete criminal data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	18	20
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting either incomplete criminal data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	35%	36%
II. Limited jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete and comparable cases	1,577,025	760,807
Number of courts reporting complete and comparable data	11	6
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete and comparable data	9	5
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data	28%	17%
B. Number of reported complete criminal cases that include other casetypes	2,236,513	1,948,522
Number of courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	13	12
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	12	11
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	30%	27%

(continued on next page)

TABLE 7: Reported national civil and criminal caseload for state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncriminal casetypes	3,996,492	3,827,106
Number of courts reporting either incomplete data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	34	32
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting either incomplete criminal data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	24	23
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting either incomplete criminal data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	52%	52%

Summary section for all trial courts:

	Reported Filings					
	General Jurisdiction		Limited Jurisdiction		Total (Incomplete)	
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
1. Total number of reported complete cases	3,603,001*	1,136,868	6,450,858*	1,577,025	10,053,859*	2,713,893
2. Total number of reported complete cases that include other casetypes	2,617,188*	489,353	531,670*	2,236,513	3,148,858*	2,725,866
3. Total number of reported cases that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include other casetypes	1,738,558*	1,344,331	753,971*	3,996,492	2,492,529*	5,534,773
Total (incomplete)	7,958,747*	2,970,552	7,736,499*	7,810,030	15,695,246*	10,780,582

*Data reflect a total of complete and comparable civil data and complete civil data which are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases in some courts.

TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total, State Trial Court Caseload, 1986

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Criminal point of filing	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA Circuit	1	2	G	A	131,646 D	133,207 D	101	3,248
ALABAMA District	2	1	B	B	537,844 C	498,096 C	93	13,270
ALABAMA Probate	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
ALABAMA Municipal	2	1	M	B	N/A	N/A		
ALABAMA State Total.					669,490 *	631,303 *	94	16,518
ALASKA Superior	1	1	B	A	21,071 P	18,706 P	89	3,953
ALASKA District	2	3	B	B	52,921 J	126,997 B		9,929
ALASKA State Total .					73,992 *	145,703 *		13,882
ARIZONA Superior	1	2	D	A	136,777 B	125,299 B	92	4,121
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace	2	1	Z	B	592,198 1	555,464 1	94	17,843
ARIZONA Municipal	2	1	Z	B	1,098,032 1	1,063,749 1	97	33,083
ARIZONA State Total.					1,827,007 *	1,744,512 *	95	55,047
ARKANSAS Circuit	1	2	A	A	65,662	64,042 C		2,768
ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate	1	2	I	I	53,016 B	49,650 B	94	2,235
ARKANSAS Court of Common Pleas	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
ARKANSAS County	2	2	I	I	12,357 1	11,175 1	90	521
ARKANSAS Municipal ...	2	1	A	B	500,963 V	343,422 V		
ARKANSAS City	2	1	A	B	20,847 V	13,176 V		
ARKANSAS Police	2	1	A	B				
ARKANSAS State Total					652,845 *	481,465 *		
CALIFORNIA Superior ..	1	2	B	A	838,895 B	671,294 B	80	3,109
CALIFORNIA Municipal .	2	3	B	B	17,541,419 C	14,299,819 C	82	65,014
CALIFORNIA Justice ...	2	3	B	B	603,658 C	513,076 C	85	2,237
CALIFORNIA State Total					18,983,972 *	15,484,189 *	82	70,361
COLORADO District, Denver Superior & Juvenile & Probate .	1	2	D	G	137,780 C	128,859 C	94	4,217
COLORADO Water	1	2	I	I	1,870	2,348	126	57
COLORADO County	2	2	D	B	373,175	358,517	96	11,423
COLORADO Municipal ...	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
COLORADO State Total					512,825 *	489,724 *	95	15,697
CONNECTICUT Superior .	1	1	E	A	836,176 Y	777,524 Y		
CONNECTICUT Probate ..	2	2	I	I	50,856	N/A		1,595
CONNECTICUT State Total					887,032 *	777,524 *		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Criminal point of filing	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Disposi-tions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
DELAWARE Court of Chancery	1	2	I	I	3,309	2,888	87	522
DELAWARE Superior	1	2	B	A	8,709 E	7,642 E	88	1,376
DELAWARE Court of Common Pleas	2	2	A	B	23,522 1	22,151 1	94	3,716
Municipal Court of Wilmington, DELAWARE	2	4	A	B	30,541 K	30,514 K	100	4,825
DELAWARE Family	2	2	B	B	36,287 J	35,953 J	99	5,733
DELAWARE Justice of the Peace	2	2	A	B	192,982	192,444	100	30,487
DELAWARE Alderman's ..	2	4	A	B	24,620	23,828	97	3,889
DELAWARE State Total					319,970 *	315,420 *	99	50,548
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	1	3	B	G	218,847 B	221,581 B	101	35,016
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Total					218,847 *	221,581 *	101	35,016
FLORIDA Circuit	1	2	E	A	678,640	557,453	82	5,813
FLORIDA County	2	1	A	B	3,681,012	3,457,121	94	31,529
FLORIDA State Total					4,359,652	4,014,574	92	37,342
GEORGIA Superior	1	2	G	A	202,901 D	194,736 D	96	3,324
GEORGIA State	2	2	G	A	520,580 D	481,732 D	93	8,529
GEORGIA Probate	2	2	B	A	218,623 V	190,610 V		
GEORGIA Juvenile	1	2	I	I	41,788	37,244	89	684
GEORGIA Municipal	2	2	M	M	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA Civil	2	2	M	M	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA Magistrate ...	2	2	B	B	217,093 1	131,837 1	61	3,557
GEORGIA County Recorder's	2	1	M	M	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA Municipal & City of Atlanta	2	1	M	M	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA State Total					1,200,985 *	1,036,159 *		
HAWAII Circuit	1	2	G	B	45,098 D	44,805 D	99	4,243
HAWAII District	2	4	A	G	959,176	898,428	94	90,233
HAWAII State Total .					1,004,274 *	943,233 *	94	94,475
IDAHO District	1	3	D	F	333,558 1	340,164 1	102	33,289
IDAHO State Total ..					333,558 *	340,164 *	102	33,289
ILLINOIS Circuit	1	4	G	A	7,329,530 B	4,766,064 B	65	63,454
ILLINOIS State Total					7,329,530 *	4,766,064 *	65	63,454

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Criminal point of filing	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
INDIANA Superior and Circuit	1	3	B	A	481,838 1	460,665 1	96	8,756
INDIANA County	2	4	B	F	268,393 1	261,435 1	97	4,877
Municipal Court of Marion County, INDIANA	2	3	B	F	201,367	177,499	88	3,659
INDIANA Probate	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
INDIANA City and Town	2	3	B	F	200,012	198,947	99	3,635
Small Claims Court of Marion County, INDIANA	2	2	I	I	61,352	58,001	95	1,115
INDIANA State Total					1,212,962 *	1,156,547 *	95	22,042
IOWA District	1	3	B	A	888,940 D	880,443 P	--	31,191
IOWA State Total ...					888,940 *	880,443 *		31,191
KANSAS District	1	2	B	G	415,195 B	405,656 B	98	16,878
KANSAS Municipal	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
KANSAS State Total .					415,195 *	405,656 *	98	16,878
KENTUCKY Circuit	1	2	B	A	75,931 D	72,608 D	96	2,036
KENTUCKY District	2	3	B	F	618,744 0	614,885 0	99	16,593
KENTUCKY State Total					694,675 *	687,493 *	99	18,629
LOUISIANA District ...	1	2	Z	A	482,176 D	N/A		10,710
LOUISIANA Family and Juvenile	1	2	I	I	29,076	N/A		645
LOUISIANA City and Parish	2	1	B	F	641,120	508,085	79	14,241
LOUISIANA Justice of the Peace	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
LOUISIANA Mayor's	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
LOUISIANA State Total					1,152,372 *	508,085 *		25,597
MAINE Superior	1	2	B	A	18,024 D	17,943 D	100	1,537
MAINE District	2	4	B	A	264,238 J	253,232 J	96	22,527
MAINE Probate	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
MAINE Administrative .	2	2	I	I	0	0		
MAINE State Total ..					282,262 *	271,175 *	96	24,063
MARYLAND Circuit	1	2	B	A	185,920 C	155,526 C	84	4,166
MARYLAND District	2	2	B	A	1,603,748	935,861 V		35,934
MARYLAND Orphan's	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
MARYLAND State Total					1,789,668 *	1,091,387 *		40,100

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Criminal point of filing	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes		Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth:										
Superior Court Department	1	1	D	A	39,980		39,187		98	686
Housing, District, Boston Municipal Court Departments	1	1	D	B	2,129,540	1	1,416,251	V		36,515
MASSACHUSETTS State Total					2,169,520	*	1,455,438	*		37,201
MICHIGAN Circuit	1	2	B	A	219,794		218,781		100	2,404
MICHIGAN Court of Claims	1	2	I	I	825		536		65	9
MICHIGAN District	2	4	B	B	2,937,101		2,731,221		93	32,121
MICHIGAN Municipal ...	2	4	B	B	42,331		41,740		99	463
MICHIGAN Probate	2	2	I	I	107,972	1	37,821	V		1,181
MICHIGAN State Total					3,308,023	*	3,030,099	*		36,177
MINNESOTA District ...	1	4	B	B	1,964,932	B	1,925,766	B	98	46,629
MINNESOTA State Total					1,964,932	*	1,925,766	*	98	46,629
MISSOURI Circuit	1	3	Z	A	800,342	P	761,341	P	95	15,798
MISSOURI State Total					800,342	*	761,341	*	95	15,798
MONTANA District	1	2	G	A	32,740	D	27,910	B		3,998
MONTANA Justice of the Peace	2	1	B	B	N/A		N/A			
MONTANA City	2	1	B	B	N/A		N/A			
MONTANA Municipal	2	1	B	B	N/A		N/A			
MONTANA State Total					32,740	*	27,910	*		
NEBRASKA District	1	2	B	A	42,771	D	44,448	D	104	2,678
NEBRASKA County	2	1	b	F	401,157	1	403,302	1	101	25,119
NEBRASKA Separate Juvenile	2	2	I	I	1,979		N/A			124
NEBRASKA Workmen's Compensation	2	2	I	I	327		325		99	20
NEBRASKA State Total	2				446,234	*	448,075	*		27,942
NEVADA District	1	2	Z	A	N/A		N/A			
NEVADA Justice	2	1	Z	B	N/A		N/A			
NEVADA Municipal	2	1	Z	B	N/A		N/A			
NEVADA State Total .										

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Criminal point of filing	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior	1	2	A	A	25,890 B	25,533 B	99	2,521
NEW HAMPSHIRE District	2	4	A	B	355,816 K	N/A		34,646
NEW HAMPSHIRE Probate	2	2	I	I	15,807	N/A		1,539
NEW HAMPSHIRE Municipal	2	4	A	B	8,176 K	N/A		796
NEW HAMPSHIRE State Total					405,689 *	25,533 *		39,502
NEW JERSEY Superior ..	1	2	B	A	775,882 B	768,033 B	99	10,182
NEW JERSEY Municipal .	2	4	B	B	5,478,384	4,628,396	84	71,895
NEW JERSEY Surrogates.	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
NEW JERSEY State Total					6,254,266 *	5,396,429 *	86	82,077
NEW MEXICO District ..	1	2	E	B	70,900 D	65,063 D	92	4,794
NEW MEXICO Magistrate.	2	3	E	B	115,023 C	N/A		7,777
NEW MEXICO Probate ...	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
NEW MEXICO Municipal .	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County, NEW MEXICO	2	4	E	B	415,101 K	291,137 K	70	28,066
NEW MEXICO State Total					601,024 *	356,200 *		40,637
NEW YORK Supreme and County	1	2	E	A	340,924 O	225,135 O	66	1,918
Civil Court of the City of NEW YORK ...	2	2	I	I	254,170	246,352	97	1,430
Criminal Court of the City of NEW YORK ...	2	4	E	D	389,431 1	361,421 1	93	2,191
NEW YORK Court of Claims	2	2	I	I	2,290	2,172	95	12
NEW YORK Surrogates' .	2	2	I	I	108,773	59,869 V		612
NEW YORK Family	2	2	I	I	421,830	420,851	100	2,374
NEW YORK District and City	2	4	E	D	354,006 V	1,341,922		
NEW YORK Town and Village	2	1	E	B	N/A	N/A		
NEW YORK State Total					1,871,424 *	2,657,722 *		10,530
NORTH CAROLINA Superior	1	2	B	A	168,210	159,589	95	2,656
NORTH CAROLINA District	2	3	C	G	1,669,633 B	1,623,049 B	97	26,360
NORTH CAROLINA State Total					1,837,843 *	1,782,638 *	97	29,016
NORTH DAKOTA District	1	4	B	A	18,423 D	17,609 D	96	2,713
NORTH DAKOTA County ..	2	1	E	F	89,605 K	89,731 K	100	13,197
NORTH DAKOTA Municipal	2	1	B	B	N/A	45,002 V		
NORTH DAKOTA State Total					108,028 *	152,342 *		15,910

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Criminal point of filing	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	1	2	B	C	589,740	576,994	98	5,484
OHIO County	2	2	B	E	275,757	270,079	98	2,564
OHIO Municipal	2	2	B	E	2,171,709	2,154,721	99	20,196
OHIO Court of Claims .	2	2	I	I	4,047	2,588	64	37
OHIO Mayors'	2	1	M	M	N/A	N/A		
OHIO State Total ...					3,041,253 *	3,004,382 *	99	28,283
OKLAHOMA District	1	2	J	A	514,840 J	479,313 J	93	15,578
OKLAHOMA Court of Tax Review	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
OKLAHOMA Municipal Criminal Court of Record	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
OKLAHOMA Municipal Court Not of Record.	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
OKLAHOMA State Total					514,840 *	479,313 *		
OREGON Circuit	1	2	E	G	118,149 P	99,066 P	84	4,379
OREGON Tax	1	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
OREGON District	2	1	E	G	451,824 K	421,029 K	93	16,747
OREGON County	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
OREGON Justice	2	3	E	B	N/A	N/A		
OREGON Municipal	2	3	A	B	N/A	N/A		
OREGON State Total .					569,973 *	520,095 *		
PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	1	2	B	A	411,569 1	433,573		3,647
PENNSYLVANIA District Justice Court	2	4	B	B	1,869,029	739,568	93	15,722
Philadelphia Municipal Court, PENNSYLVANIA.	2	2	B	B	143,792 K	144,350 K	100	1,210
Pittsburgh City Magistrates, PENNSYLVANIA	2	4	B	B	389,774 1	N/A		3,279
Philadelphia Traffic Court, PENNSYLVANIA.	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
PENNSYLVANIA State Total					2,814,164 *	2,317,491 *		23,857
PUERTO RICO Superior .	1	2	A	B	101,167 O	97,305 O	96	3,097
PUERTO RICO District .	2	2	A	B	165,320 C	164,441 C	99	5,060
PUERTO RICO Municipal.	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
PUERTO RICO Total ..					266,487 *	261,746 *	98	8,157
RHODE ISLAND Superior.	1	2	D	A	13,389 E	5,404 V		1,373
RHODE ISLAND Family ..	2	2	I	I	11,713 J	N/A		1,201
RHODE ISLAND District.	2	2	A	B	75,342 O	64,055 O	85	7,727
RHODE ISLAND Municipal	2	1	I	I	N/A	N/A		
RHODE ISLAND Probate .	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
RHODE ISLAND State Total					100,444 *	69,459 *		10,302

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Criminal point of filing	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Disposi-tions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
SOUTH CAROLINA Circuit	1	2	B	A	100,952 E	97,334 E	96	2,990
SOUTH CAROLINA Family	2	2	I	I	63,781 B	64,049 B	100	1,889
SOUTH CAROLINA Magistrate	2	4	B	E	620,175 K	621,625 K	100	18,370
SOUTH CAROLINA Probate	2	2	I	I	20,459	19,552	96	606
SOUTH CAROLINA Municipal	2	4	B	E	364,265 K	64,298 K	100	10,790
SOUTH CAROLINA State Total					1,169,632 *	1,166,858 *	100	34,645
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit .	1	3	B	B	209,676	195,943 1		29,615
SOUTH DAKOTA State Total					209,676	195,943 *		29,615
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery	1	2	Z	A	151,393 O	136,749 O	90	3,152
TENNESSEE Probate	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE Juvenile ...	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE General Sessions	2	1	M	M	3,073 W	2,730 W		
TENNESSEE Municipal ..	2	1	M	M	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE State Total					154,466 *	139,479 *		
TEXAS District	1	2	B	A	559,671 B	617,406 B	110	3,354
TEXAS Municipal	2	4	A	B	6,568,777 1	5,214,948 1	79	39,369
TEXAS Justice of the Peace	2	[illegible]	A	B	2,357,091 V	1,909,655 V		
TEXAS County-Level ...	2	2	B	F	650,807	667,161	103	3,901
TEXAS State Total ..					10,136,346 *	8,409,170 *		60,751
UTAH District	1	2	J	A	38,097 C	50,324 C	132	2,288
UTAH Circuit	2	4	B	A	616,538 E	500,231 E	81	37,029
UTAH Justice of the Peace	2	4	B	B	314,398	298,565	95	18,883
UTAH Juvenile	2	2	I	I	N/A	N/A		
UTAH State Total ...					969,033 *	849,120 *	88	58,200
VERMONT Superior	1	2	I	I	9,490 D	9,355 D	99	1,754
VERMONT District	1	2	D	C	156,692	147,601	94	28,963
VERMONT Probate	2	2	I	I	3,456 V	4,175		
VERMONT State Total.					169,638 *	161,131 *		31,356
VIRGINIA Circuit	1	2	A	A	155,691 B	145,830 B	94	2,690
VIRGINIA District	2	4	A	E	2,693,074	2,650,652	98	46,537
VIRGINIA State Total					2,848,765 *	2,796,482 *	98	49,227

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Criminal point of filing	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
WASHINGTON Superior ..	1	2	G	A	179,210 D	140,625 D	78	4,015
WASHINGTON District ..	2	4	C	B	774,344 C	85,546 V		17,350
WASHINGTON Municipal .	2	4	C	B	1,146,356	N/A		25,686
WASHINGTON State Total					2,099,910 *	226,171 *		47,052
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit.	1	2	J	A	54,293 D	57,985 P		2,829
WEST VIRGINIA Magistrate	2	2	J	E	292,752 K	282,989 K	97	15,255
WEST VIRGINIA Municipal	2	1	A	B	N/A	N/A		
WEST VIRGINIA State Total					347,045 *	340,974 *		18,085
WISCONSIN Circuit	1	3	D	C	569,668 B	555,050 B	97	11,905
WISCONSIN Municipal ..	2	3	A	B	N/A	325,896 V		
WISCONSIN State Total					569,668 *	880,946 *		
WYOMING District	1	2	J	A	11,926 D	11,877 D	100	2,352
WYOMING Justice of the Peace	2	1	J	B	34,449	34,047	99	6,795
WYOMING Municipal	2	1	A	B	N/A	N/A		
WYOMING County	2	1	J	B	105,967	106,660	101	20,901
WYOMING State Total.					152,342 *	152,584 *	100	30,048

NOTE: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report trial level data for 1986, and did not respond to the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide. All other state courts are listed in this table, regardless of whether data are available. All data that are at least 75% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filings per 100,000 population" State Total figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due to rounding.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

1 = General Jurisdiction
2 = Limited Jurisdiction

PARKING CODES:

1 = Parking data are unavailable
2 = Court does not have parking jurisdiction
3 = Only contested parking cases are included
4 = Both contested and uncontested parking cases are included

CRIMINAL UNIT OF COUNT CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Single defendant--single charge
B = Single defendant--single incident (one/more charges)
C = Single defendant--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
D = Single defendant--one/more incidents
E = Single defendant--content varies with prosecutor
F = One/more defendants--single charge

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1986. (continued)

G = One/more defendants--single incident (one/more charges)
H = One/more defendants--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
J = One/more defendants--one/more incidents
K = One/more defendants--content varies with prosecutor
L = Inconsistent during reporting year
Z = Both the defendant and charge components vary within the state

CRIMINAL POINT OF FILING CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = At the filing of the information/indictment
B = At the filing of the complaint
C = When defendant enters plea/initial appearance
D = When docketed
E = At issuing of warrant
F = At filing of information/complaint
G = Varies (At filing of the complaint, information, indictment)

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote will have impact on the state's total.

B: The following courts' data are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
  Alaska--District Court
  Arizona--Superior Court
  Arkansas--Chancery and Probate Court
  California--Superior Court
  District of Columbia--Superior Court
  Illinois--Circuit Court
  Kansas--District Court
  Minnesota--District Court
  Montana--District Court
  New Hampshire--Superior Court
  New Jersey--Superior Court
  North Carolina--District Court
  South Carolina--Family Court
  Texas--District Court
  Virginia--Circuit Court
  Wisconsin--Circuit Court

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
  Alabama--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearings.
  Arkansas--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data include postconviction remedy and probation revocation proceedings.
  California--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing cases.
  --Justice Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing cases bound over and other transfers.
  Colorado--District, Denver Superior, Denver Juvenile, Denver Probate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include extraditions, revocations, parole, and release from commitment hearings.
  Maryland--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include some post-conviction remedy proceedings.
  New Mexico--Magistrate Court--Grand total filed data include preliminary hearings.
  Puerto Rico--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.
  Utah--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.
  Washington--District Court--Grand total filed data include some Municipal Court cases.

D: The following courts' data are overinclusive and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
  Alabama--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Georgia--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include probation revocation hearings, and are not comparable to other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Hawaii--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include criminal postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Iowa--District Court--Grand total filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Kentucky--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include sentence review only and some postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Louisiana--District Court--Grand total filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Maine--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

(continued on next page)

Montana--District Court--Grand total filed data include reopened cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/ custody cases.
Nebraska--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
New Mexico--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
North Dakota--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Vermont--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Washington--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
West Virginia--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
Wyoming--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

E: The following courts' data include postconviction remedy proceedings:
Delaware--Superior Court
Rhode Island--Superior Court
South Carolina--Circuit Court
Utah--Circuit Court

1: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
Arizona--Justice of the Peace Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include limited felony, parking, or miscellaneous traffic cases.
--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation, parking, and miscellaneous traffic cases.
Arkansas--County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include real property rights and miscellaneous civil cases. Several counties did not report data.
Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include some limited felony cases.
Georgia--Magistrate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include criminal cases.
Idaho--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include felony, parking, and some DWI/DUI cases.
Indiana--Superior and Circuit Court-Grand total filed and disposed data do not include some civil, all mental health, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal, "redocketed civil," and "other" cases.
--County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include mental health, miscellaneous civil, and miscellaneous criminal cases.
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Housing, District, Boston Municipal Departments)--Grand total filed data do not include criminal and traffic cases from the Boston Municipal Court Department, or parking data from the District Court Department.
Michigan--Probate Court--Grand total filed data do not include status offense petitions.
Nebraska--County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include limited felony or parking cases.
New York--Criminal Court of the City of New York--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, some ordinance violation cases and all parking cases from cities that have Parking Violations Bureaus (i.e., all cities with greater than 100,000 population).
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Grand total filed data do not include some unclassified civil cases and postconviction criminal appeals.
--Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court--Grand total filed data do not include limited felony, misdemeanor, and DWI/DUI cases.
South Dakota--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data do not include adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate, mental health, administrative agency appeals, and juvenile data.
Texas--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases and represent only a 76% reporting rate.
Wisconsin--Municipal Court--Grand total disposed data do not include cases from 59 courts which were not reported.

(continued on next page)

J: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
  Alaska--District Court--Grand total filed data do not include most traffic/other violation cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Delaware--Family Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include status offense petitions and child victim petitions, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Maine--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Oklahoma--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include any juvenile data, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Rhode Island--Family Court--Grand total filed data do not include paternity/bastardy cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

K: The following courts' data do not include limited felony cases:
  Delaware--Municipal Court of Wilmington
  New Hampshire--District Court--Municipal Court
  New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County
  North Dakota--County Court
  Oregon--District Court
  Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court
  South Carolina--Magistrate Court--Municipal Court
  West Virginia--Magistrate Court

O: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are overinclusive:
  Georgia--State Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include probation revocation hearings, but do not include limited felony cases.
  Kentucky--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include sentence review only proceedings, but do not include limited felony cases.
  New York--Supreme and County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include civil appeals and criminal appeals cases.
  Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include estate cases.
  Rhode Island--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings, but do not include administrative agency appeals and mental health cases.
  Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include traffic/other violation cases.

P: The following courts' data are 75% complete, overinclusive, and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
  Alaska--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include criminal appeals cases and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Iowa--District Court--Grand total disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some domestic relations and juvenile cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Missouri--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some ordinance violation and some parking cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  Oregon--Circuit Court--Grand total filed data do not include some juvenile cases, but do include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases. Grand total disposed data do not include adoption, mental health and some juvenile cases, but do include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
  West Virginia--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include civil trial court appeals and criminal appeals cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:
  Arkansas--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include parking and cases from several municipalities.
  --City Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include parking and data from several courts.

(continued on next page)

Georgia--Probate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data represent less than 75% of the Probate courts.

Maryland--District Court--Grand total disposed data do not include civil and ordinance violation cases.

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Housing, District, Boston Municipal Court Departments)--Grand total disposed data do not include civil cases from the Housing Court Department, miscellaneous civil data from the Probate/ Family Court Department, criminal cases from the Boston Municipal, Housing and District Court Departments, moving traffic cases from the Boston Municipal Court Department, parking, ordinance violation and miscellaneous traffic cases, and juvenile data from the Juvenile Court Department.

Michigan--Probate Court--Grand total disposed data do not include paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, miscellaneous civil, traffic and juvenile cases.

New York--Surrogates' Court--Grand total disposed data do not include miscellaneous estate cases.

--District and City Court--Grand total filed data do not include moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic and unclassified traffic violation cases.

North Dakota--Municipal Court--Grand total disposed data do not include ordinance violation and parking cases.

Rhode Island--Superior Court--Grand total disposed data do not include civil cases.

Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases.

Vermont--Probate Court--Grand total filed data do not include miscellaneous domestic relations, gifts to minors, mental health, or miscellaneous civil cases.

Washington--District Court--Grand total disposed data do not include criminal or traffic cases.

Wisconsin--Municipal Court--Grand total disposed data represent only 144 of the 203 Municipal Courts.

W: The following court's data are less than 75% complete and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

Tennessee--General Sessions Court--Grand total filed and disposed data are missing all but domestic relations cases, and represent only 16 of 94 courts.

Y: The following court's data are overinclusive, less than 75% complete, and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

Connecticut--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include parking and some small claims cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1986

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA Circuit	1	81,262 D	78,579 D	97	2,005
ALABAMA District	2	159,695	147,175	92	3,940
ALABAMA Probate	2	N/A	N/A		
ALABAMA State Total		240,957 *	225,754 *	94	5,945
ALASKA Superior	1	16,506 D	14,642 D	89	3,097
ALASKA District	2	26,328 B	17,739 B	67	4,940
ALASKA State Total		42,834 *	32,381 *	76	8,036
ARIZONA Superior	1	102,140 B	96,447 B	94	3,077
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace	2	112,004	102,251	91	3,375
ARIZONA Municipal	2	1,971	1,971	100	59
ARIZONA State Total		216,115 *	200,669 *	93	6,511
ARKANSAS Circuit	1	35,784	33,856	95	1,509
ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate	1	53,016 B	49,650 B	94	2,235
ARKANSAS Court of Common Pleas	2	N/A	N/A		
ARKANSAS County	2	3,698 1	2,293 1	62	156
ARKANSAS Municipal	2	38,756 1	21,463 1	55	1,634
ARKANSAS City	2	90 1	50 1	56	4
ARKANSAS Police	2	N/A	N/A		
ARKANSAS State Total		131,344 *	107,312 *	82	5,537
CALIFORNIA Superior	1	654,283 B	510,572 B	78	2,425
CALIFORNIA Municipal	2	1,049,569	777,606	74	3,890
CALIFORNIA Justice	2	41,982	31,956	76	156
CALIFORNIA State Total		1,745,834 *	1,320,134 *	76	6,471
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	1	105,688	99,194	94	3,235
COLORADO Water	1	1,870	2,348	126	57
COLORADO County	2	144,766	136,825	95	4,431
COLORADO State Total		252,324	238,367	94	7,723
CONNECTICUT Superior	1	154,581 D	92,916 P		4,847
CONNECTICUT Probate	2	50,856	N/A		1,595
CONNECTICUT State Total		205,437 *	92,916 *		6,442
DELAWARE Court of Chancery	1	3,309	2,888	87	523
DELAWARE Superior	1	4,067	3,470	85	643
DELAWARE Court of Common Pleas	2	5,681	4,630	81	898
DELAWARE Family	2	26,419 B	26,610 B	101	4,174
DELAWARE Justice of the Peace	2	25,955	27,232	105	4,100
DELAWARE Alderman's	2	0	0		
DELAWARE State Total		65,431 *	64,830 *	99	10,337
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	1	145,263 B	147,714 B	102	23,242
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Total		145,263 *	147,714 *		23,242
FLORIDA Circuit	1	442,809	366,912	83	3,793
FLORIDA County	2	349,645	301,038	86	2,995
FLORIDA State Total		792,454	667,950	84	6,788

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
GEORGIA Superior	1	140,803 D	130,195 D	92	2,307
GEORGIA State	2	176,095 C	152,718 C	87	2,885
GEORGIA Probate	2	22,946 1	N/A		376
GEORGIA Municipal	2	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA Civil	2	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA Magistrate	2	183,166 1	121,430 1	66	3,001
GEORGIA State Total		523,010 *	404,343 *		8,568
HAWAII Circuit	1	26,171 D	29,047 D	111	2,462
HAWAII District	2	21,263	20,354	96	2,000
HAWAII State Total		47,434 *	49,401 *		4,462
IDAHO District	1	60,121 B	66,345 B	110	6,000
IDAHO State Total		60,121 *	66,345 *		6,000
ILLINOIS Circuit	1	517,756 D	490,629 D	95	4,482
ILLINOIS State Total		517,756 *	490,629 *	95	4,482
INDIANA Superior and Circuit	1	221,975 1	219,546 1	99	4,034
INDIANA County	2	66,841 1	67,213 1	101	1,215
Municipal Court of Marion County, INDIANA	2	11,241 C	10,865 C	97	204
INDIANA Probate	2	N/A	N/A		
INDIANA City and Town	2	17,384	17,695	102	316
Small Claims Court of Marion County, INDIANA	2	60,602	57,306	95	1,101
INDIANA State Total		378,043 *	372,625 *	99	6,870
IOWA District	1	150,849 D	151,856 P		5,293
IOWA State Total		150,849 *	151,856 *		5,293
KANSAS District	1	134,131 B	130,350 B	97	5,452
KANSAS State Total		134,131 *	130,350 *	97	5,452
KENTUCKY Circuit	1	62,212 D	59,342 D	95	1,668
KENTUCKY District	2	124,134 1	130,637 1	105	3,329
KENTUCKY State Total		186,346 *	189,979 *		4,997
LOUISIANA District	1	187,145 D	N/A		4,157
LOUISIANA Family and Juvenile	1	N/A	N/A		
LOUISIANA City and Parish	2	86,612	55,057	64	1,924
LOUISIANA State Total		273,757 *	55,057		6,081
MAINE Superior	1	6,622 B	7,074 B	107	565
MAINE District	2	50,810 B	47,900 B	94	4,332
MAINE Probate	2	N/A	N/A		
MAINE Administrative	2	0	0		
MAINE State Total		57,432 *	54,974 *	96	4,896

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a per-centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MARYLAND Circuit	1	106,716	83,646	78	2,391
MARYLAND District	2	586,635	N/A		13,144
MARYLAND Orphan's	2	N/A	N/A		
MARYLAND State Total		693,351	83,646		15,536
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	1	476,684	360,513 V		8,174
MASSACHUSETTS State Total		476,684	360,513 *	76	8,174
MICHIGAN Circuit	1	172,144	172,655	100	1,883
MICHIGAN Court of Claims	1	825	536	65	9
MICHIGAN District	2	366,072	354,044	97	4,003
MICHIGAN Municipal	2	1,128	1,017	90	12
MICHIGAN Probate	2	90,650	37,821 V		991
MICHIGAN State Total		630,819	566,073 *	90	6,899
MINNESOTA District	1	233,927 B	221,297 B	95	5,551
MINNESOTA State Total		233,927 *	221,297 *	95	5,551
MISSOURI Circuit	1	237,782 P	224,860 P	95	4,694
MISSOURI State Total		237,782 *	224,860 *	95	4,694
MONTANA District	1	28,212 D	23,220 B		3,445
MONTANA Justice of the Peace	2	N/A	N/A		
MONTANA City	2	N/A	N/A		
MONTANA Municipal	2	N/A	N/A		
MONTANA State Total		28,212 *	23,220 *		3,445
NEBRASKA District	1	36,805 J	38,408 J	104	2,305
NEBRASKA County	2	57,514	57,592	100	3,601
NEBRASKA Workmen's Compensation ...	2	327	325	99	21
NEBRASKA State Total		94,646 *	96,325 *		5,926
NEVADA District	1	N/A	N/A		
NEVADA Justice	2	N/A	N/A		
NEVADA Municipal	2	N/A	N/A		
NEVADA State Total					
NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior	1	18,208 B	18,246 B	100	1,773
NEW HAMPSHIRE District	2	42,789	N/A		4,166
NEW HAMPSHIRE Probate	2	15,807	N/A		1,539
NEW HAMPSHIRE Municipal	2	479	N/A		47
NEW HAMPSHIRE State Total		77,283 *	18,246 *		7,525
NEW JERSEY Superior	1	624,828 J	619,617 J	99	8,200
NEW JERSEY Surrogates	2	N/A	N/A		
NEW JERSEY State Total		624,828 *	619,617 *	99	8,200

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes		Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
NEW MEXICO District	1	53,424	D	48,663	D	91	3,612
NEW MEXICO Magistrate	2	15,415		N/A			1,042
NEW MEXICO Probate	2	N/A		N/A			
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County, NEW MEXICO	2	9,237		7,983		86	625
NEW MEXICO State Total		78,076	*	56,646	*		5,279
NEW YORK Supreme and County	1	284,568	O	169,638	O	60	1,601
Civil Court of the City of NEW YORK	2	254,170		246,352		97	1,430
NEW YORK Court of Claims	2	2,290		2,172		95	13
NEW YORK Surrogates'	2	108,773		59,869	V		612
NEW YORK Family	2	376,979		375,200		100	2,121
NEW YORK District and City	2	138,025		112,806		82	777
NEW YORK Town and Village	2	N/A		N/A			
NEW YORK State Total		1,164,805	*	966,037	*	83	6,554
NORTH CAROLINA Superior	1	92,031		85,589		93	1,453
NORTH CAROLINA District	2	341,730	B	331,876	B	97	5,395
NORTH CAROLINA State Total		433,761	*	417,465	*	96	6,848
NORTH DAKOTA District	1	15,085	B	14,440	B	96	2,222
NORTH DAKOTA County	2	17,813	H	17,277	H	97	2,623
NORTH DAKOTA State Total		32,898	*	31,717	*	96	4,845
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	1	324,779	E	316,776	E	98	3,020
OHIO County	2	23,759		23,642		100	221
OHIO Municipal	2	342,714		331,311		97	3,187
OHIO Court of Claims	2	4,047		2,588		64	38
OHIO State Total		695,299	*	674,317	*	97	6,466
OKLAHOMA District	1	226,467	B	211,376	B	93	6,852
OKLAHOMA Court of Tax Review	2	N/A		N/A			
OKLAHOMA State Total		226,467	*	211,376	*	93	6,852
OREGON Circuit	1	79,268	D	77,335	P		2,938
OREGON Tax	1	N/A		N/A			
OREGON District	2	73,954		72,176		98	2,741
OREGON County	2	N/A		N/A			
OREGON Justice	2	N/A		N/A			
OREGON State Total		153,222	*	149,511	*	98	5,679
PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	1	264,305	I	286,758			2,412
PENNSYLVANIA District Justice Court	2	198,615		191,305		96	1,671
Philadelphia Municipal Court, PENNSYLVANIA	2	101,345	C	102,336	C	101	853
Pittsburgh City Magistrates, PENNSYLVANIA	2	5,501					46
PENNSYLVANIA State Total		569,766	*	580,399	*		4,982

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1996. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
PUERTO RICO Superior	1	68,295 O	66,550 O	97	2,090
PUERTO RICO District	2	46,911 C	45,898 C	96	1,436
PUERTO RICO Total		115,206 *	112,448 *	98	3,526
RHODE ISLAND Superior	1	7,867 E	N/A		807
RHODE ISLAND Family	2	5,143 J	N/A		528
RHODE ISLAND District	2	33,770 1	27,261 1	81	3,464
RHODE ISLAND Probate	2	N/A	N/A		
RHODE ISLAND State Total		46,780 *	27,261 *		4,798
SOUTH CAROLINA Circuit	1	52,895 C	50,475 C	95	1,567
SOUTH CAROLINA Family	2	51,546 B	51,930 B	101	1,527
SOUTH CAROLINA Magistrate	2	N/A	111,271		3,296
SOUTH CAROLINA Probate	2	20,459	19,552	96	606
SOUTH CAROLINA State Total		124,900 *	233,228 *		6,996
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit	1	42,510	35,505 1		6,004
SOUTH DAKOTA State Total		42,510	35,505 *	84	6,004
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery	1	106,890 D	96,643 D	90	2,225
TENNESSEE Probate	2	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE Juvenile	2	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE General Sessions	2	3,073 W	2,730 W	89	
TENNESSEE State Total		109,963 *	99,373 *	90	2,225
TEXAS District	1	419,434 D	458,875 D	109	2,514
TEXAS Municipal	2	561 1	561 1	100	3
TEXAS Justice of the Peace	2	268,337 V	194,786 V	73	
TEXAS County-Level	2	178,265 C	202,247 C	113	1,068
TEXAS State Total		866,597 *	856,469 *	99	3,586
UTAH District	1	33,042 C	42,537 C	129	1,985
UTAH Circuit	2	80,378	55,345	69	4,828
UTAH Justice of the Peace	2	3,562	3,538	99	214
UTAH State Total		116,982 *	101,420 *	87	7,026
VERMONT Superior	1	9,489 D	9,351 D	99	1,754
VERMONT District	1	19,007	18,255	96	3,513
VERMONT Probate	2	3,456 V	4,175		772
VERMONT State Total		31,952 *	31,781 *	99	6,039
VIRGINIA Circuit	1	84,408 B	77,886 B	92	1,459
VIRGINIA District	2	834,375	827,289	99	14,418
VIRGINIA State Total		918,783 *	905,175 *	99	15,877
WASHINGTON Superior	1	13[illegible],933 D	102,411 D	75	3,046
WASHINGTON District	2	101,814	85,546 C		2,281
WASHINGTON Municipal	2	704	N/A		16
WASHINGTON State Total		238,451 *	187,957 *		5,343

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit	1	41,107 B	45,183 J		2,142
WEST VIRGINIA Magistrate	2	49,638	50,559	102	2,587
WEST VIRGINIA State Total		90,745 *	95,742 *		4,729
WISCONSIN Circuit	1	343,755 D	338,078 D	98	7,184
WISCONSIN State Total		343,755 *	338,078 *	98	7,184
WYOMING District	1	9,694 D	10,416 D	107	1,912
WYOMING Justice of the Peace	2	4,334	4,137	95	855
WYOMING County	2	15,896	16,074	101	3,135
WYOMING State Total		29,924 *	30,627 *		5,902

NOTE: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report civil data for 1986, and did not respond to the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide. All other state courts are listed in this table, regardless of whether data are available. All data that are at least 75% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filings per 100,000 population" State Total figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due, to rounding.

JURISDICTION CODES:

1 = General Jurisdiction
2 = Limited Jurisdiction

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote will have impact on the state's total.

B: The following courts' data are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:
- Alaska--District Court
- Arizona--Superior Court
- Arkansas--Chancery and Probate Court
- California--Superior Court
- Delaware--Family Court
- District of Columbia--Superior Court
- Idaho--District Court
- Kansas--District Court
- Maine--Superior Court, District Court
- Minnesota--District Court
- Montana--District Court
- New Hampshire--Superior Court
- North Carolina--District Court
- North Dakota--District Court
- Oklahoma--District Court
- South Carolina--Family Court
- Virginia--Circuit Court
- West Virginia--Circuit Court

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Georgia--State Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include probation revocation hearings.
- Indiana--Municipal Court of Marion County--Total civil filed and disposed data include miscellaneous criminal cases.
- Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include some ordinance violation cases.
- Puerto Rico--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include transfers and re- opened cases.
- South Carolina--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include criminal appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Texas--County-Level Courts--Total civil filed and disposed data include juvenile cases.
- Utah--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include some postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Washington--District Court--Total civil disposed data include some domestic relations cases from the Municipal Court.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1986. (continued)

D: The following courts' data are overinclusive and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

- Alabama--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to method of counting support/custody cases.
- Alaska--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to method of counting support/custody cases.
- Connecticut--Superior Court--Total civil filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Georgia--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include probation revocation hearings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to method of counting support/custody cases.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include criminal postconviction remedy proceedings and some criminal and traffic/other violation cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Illinois--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include miscellaneous criminal cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Iowa--District Court--Total civil filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Kentucky--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include some postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Louisiana--District Court--Total civil filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Montana--District Court--Total civil filed data include appeals of trial court cases, reopened cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- New Mexico--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Oregon--Circuit Court--Total civil filed data include criminal appeals cases and postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and miscellaneous criminal cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Texas--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include some juvenile cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Vermont--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Washington--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include criminal appeals cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.
- Wyoming--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include criminal appeals cases and postconviction remedy proceedings and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

E: The following courts' data include postconviction remedy proceedings:

- Ohio--Court of Common Pleas
- Rhode Island--Superior Court

H: The following court's data include criminal appeals cases:

- North Dakota--County Court

I: The following courts' data are 75% complete:

- Arkansas--County Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include real property rights and miscellaneous civil cases and data from several counties.
  - --Municipal Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include data from approximately 25% of the courts.
  - --City Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include cases from several counties.
- Georgia--Probate Court--Total civil filed data do not include cases from several counties.
  - --Magistrate Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include cases from several counties.
- Indiana--Superior and Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include mental health cases and a few civil cases which are reported as "redocketed civil."

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1986. (continued)

--County Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include mental health or miscellaneous civil cases, and a few civil cases which are reported as "redocketed civil."

Kentucky--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include paternity/bastardy cases.

Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Total civil filed data do not include some unclassified civil cases.

Rhode Island--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include administrative agency appeals and mental health cases.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total civil disposed data do not include adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate, mental health and administrative agency appeals cases.

Texas--Municipal Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include 24% of the caseload due to the reporting rate.

J: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

Nebraska--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include civil appeals and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

New Jersey--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include a few domestic relations cases and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Rhode Island--Family Court--Total civil filed data do not include paternity/bastardy and adoption cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

West Virginia--Circuit Court--Total civil disposed data do not include trial court appeals and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

O: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are overinclusive:

New York--Supreme and County Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include civil appeals cases.

Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases but do not include estate cases.

P: The following courts' data are 75% complete, overinclusive, and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

Connecticut--Superior Court--Total civil disposed data do not include some small claims cases, but do include postconviction remedy proceedings, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Iowa--District Court--Total civil disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include a few domestic relations cases and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Missouri--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some domestic relations cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

Oregon--Circuit Court--Total civil disposed data include criminal appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings but do not include adoption or mental health cases, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total civil disposed data do not include real property rights and small claims cases from the Housing Court Department and miscellaneous civil cases from the Probate/Family Court Department.

Michigan--Probate Court--Total civil disposed data do not include paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, and mental health cases.

New York--Surrogates' Court--Total civil disposed data do not include many estate cases.

Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include 26% of the caseload due to the reporting rate.

Vermont--Probate Court--Total civil filed data do not include mental health and miscellaneous civil cases, and some domestic relations and estate cases.

W: The following court's data are less than 75% complete and are not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases:

Tennessee--General Sessions Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include only domestic relations cases for 16 of 94 courts, and are not comparable with other state totals due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1986

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes		Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult popula-tion
ALABAMA Circuit	1	G	A	32,192	E	31,707	E	98	1,096
ALABAMA District	2	B	B	109,629	C	101,819	C	93	3,731
ALABAMA Municipal	2	M	B	N/A		N/A			
ALABAMA State Total				141,821	*	133,526	*	94	4,827
ALASKA Superior	1	B	A	2,658	M	2,590	M	97	734
ALASKA District	2	B	B	26,450	C	25,441	C	96	7,307
ALASKA State Total				29,108	*	28,031	*	96	8,041
ARIZONA Superior	1	D	A	23,184		20,912		90	963
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace	2	Z	B	59,380	1	50,644	1	85	2,466
ARIZONA Municipal	2	Z	B	190,250		178,052		94	7,901
ARIZONA State Total				272,814	*	249,608	*	91	11,329
ARKANSAS Circuit	1	A	A	29,878		30,186	C		1,730
ARKANSAS Municipal	2	A	B	140,141	0	105,787	0	75	8,115
ARKANSAS City	2	A	B	5,108	0	3,682	0	72	296
ARKANSAS Police	2	A	B	N/A		N/A			
ARKANSAS State Total				175,127	*	139,655	*	80	10,141
CALIFORNIA Superior	1	B	A	98,067		90,873		93	493
CALIFORNIA Municipal	2	B	B	816,490	0	698,446	0	86	4,109
CALIFORNIA Justice	2	B	B	58,679	0	49,415	0	84	295
CALIFORNIA State Total				973,236	*	838,734	*	86	4,898
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	1	D	G	16,963	C	16,414	C	97	707
COLORADO County	2	D	B	33,016	1	32,006	1	97	1,375
COLORADO State Total				49,979	*	48,420	*	97	2,082
CONNECTICUT Superior	1	E	A	143,719	L	141,585	L	99	5,912
CONNECTICUT State Total				143,719	*	141,585	*	99	5,912
DELAWARE Superior	1	B	A	4,642	E	4,172	E	90	981
DELAWARE Court of Common Pleas	2	A	B	17,841	1	17,521	1	98	3,772
Municipal Court of Wilmington, DELAWARE.	2	A	B	12,740	C	12,988	0	102	2,693
DELAWARE Family	2	B	B	3,172		2,940		93	671
DELAWARE Justice of the Peace	2	A	B	37,809	1	37,084	1	98	7,993
DELAWARE Alderman's	2	A	B	3,106	F	2,822	F	91	657
DELAWARE State Total				79,310	*	77,527	*	98	16,767
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	1	B	G	37,820	L	38,281	L	101	7,750
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Total				37,820	*	38,281	*		7,750
FLORIDA Circuit	1	E	A	147,727		131,219		89	1,633
FLORIDA County	2	A	B	365,137		310,143		85	4,037
FLORIDA State Total				512,864		441,362		86	5,670

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult popula-tion
GEORGIA Superior	1	G	A	55,129 0	57,559 0	104	1,255
GEORGIA State	2	G	A	113,056 1	105,072 1	93	2,575
GEORGIA Probate	2	B	A	5,149 V	4,915 V	95	
GEORGIA Municipal	2	M	M	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA Civil	2	M	M	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA Magistrate	2	B	B	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA County Recorder's	2	M	M	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA Municipal and City of Atlanta ..	2	M	M	N/A	N/A		
GEORGIA State Total				173,334 *	167,546 *	97	3,830
HAWAII Circuit	1	G	B	3,334 1	2,502 1	75	429
HAWAII District	2	A	C	29,551 1	28,937 1	98	3,803
HAWAII State Total				32,885 *	31,439 *	96	4,232
IDAHO District	1	D	F	50,916 0	50,280 0	99	7,368
IDAHO State Total				50,916 *	50,280 *	99	7,368
ILLINOIS Circuit	1	G	A	473,177 0	474,721 0	100	5,571
ILLINOIS State Total				473,177 *	474,721 *		5,571
INDIANA Superior and Circuit	1	B	A	56,893 1	44,262 1	78	1,413
INDIANA County	2	B	F	38,911 1	42,363 1	109	967
Municipal Court of Marion County, INDIANA	2	B	F	39,492 1	32,594 1	83	981
INDIANA City and Town	2	B	F	29,735	28,613	96	739
Small Claims Court of Marion County, INDIANA	2	I	I	750	695	93	19
INDIANA State Total				165,781 *	148,527 *	90	4,118
IOWA District	1	B	A	45,391 1	46,197 1	102	2,158
IOWA State Total				45,391 *	46,197 *		2,158
KANSAS District	1	B	G	33,249	34,644	104	1,833
KANSAS State Total				33,249	34,644		1,833
KENTUCKY Circuit	1	B	A	13,719 C	13,266 C	97	504
KENTUCKY District	2	B	F	175,858 0	169,063 0	96	6,465
KENTUCKY State Total				189,577 *	182,329 *	96	6,970
LOUISIANA District	1	Z	A	83,121 L	N/A		2,635
LOUISIANA City and Parish	2	B	F	145,906 X	118,372 X	81	4,625
LOUISIANA State Total				229,027 *	118,372 *		7,259
MAINE Superior	1	B	A	8,418 0	8,064 0	96	967
MAINE District	2	B	F	34,096 V	29,506 V	87	
MAINE State Total				42,514 *	37,570 *	88	967
MARYLAND Circuit	1	B	A	48,563 C	42,943 C	88	1,449
MARYLAND District	2	B	A	173,125	132,228 L		5,165
MARYLAND State Total				221,688 *	175,171 *	79	6,614

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes		Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth: Superior Court Dept. ...	1	D	A	5,893		5,626		95	131
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth: Housing, District, Boston Municipal and Juvenile Court Dept.	1	D	B	316,809	1	N/A			7,054
MASSACHUSETTS State Total				322,702	*	5,626	*		7,186
MICHIGAN Circuit	1	B	A	47,650		46,126		97	714
MICHIGAN District	2	B	B	227,309	0	223,262	0	98	3,406
MICHIGAN Municipal	2	B	B	2,849	0	2,341	0	82	43
MICHIGAN State Total				277,808	*	271,729	*	98	4,163
MINNESOTA District	1	B	B	158,190	F	152,924	F	97	5,096
MINNESOTA State Total				158,190	*	152,924	*	97	5,096
MISSOURI Circuit	1	Z	A	117,511		107,797		92	3,128
MISSOURI State Total				117,511		107,797		92	3,128
MONTANA District	1	G	A	3,147	C	3,563			606
MONTANA Justice of the Peace	2	B	B	N/A		N/A			
MONTANA City	2	B	B	N/A		N/A			
MONTANA Municipal	2	B	B	N/A		N/A			
MONTANA State Total				3,147	*	3,563			606
NEBRASKA District	1	B	A	5,966	C	6,040	C	101	510
NEBRASKA County	2	B	F	64,254	0	60,152	0	94	5,492
NEBRASKA State Total				70,220	*	66,192	*	94	6,002
NEVADA District	1	Z	A	N/A		N/A			
NEVADA Justice	2	Z	B	N/A		N/A			
NEVADA Municipal	2	Z	B	N/A		N/A			
NEVADA State Total				N/A		N/A			
NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior	1	A	A	7,682		7,287		95	1,002
NEW HAMPSHIRE District	2	A	B	41,381	K	N/A			5,395
NEW HAMPSHIRE Municipal	2	A	B	1,471	K	N/A			192
NEW HAMPSHIRE State Total				50,534	*	7,287			6,589
NEW JERSEY Superior	1	B	A	41,857		40,711		97	723
NEW JERSEY Municipal	2	B	B	377,521	F	356,716	F	94	6,521
NEW JERSEY State Total				419,378	*	397,427	*	95	7,244
NEW MEXICO District	1	E	B	9,713		9,102		94	939
NEW MEXICO Magistrate	2	E	B	67,028	C				6,476
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County, NEW MEXICO	2	E	B	52,298	0	56,278	0	108	5,053
NEW MEXICO State Total				129,039	*	65,380	*		12,468

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes		Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult popula-tion
NEW YORK Supreme and County	1	E	A	56,356	M	55,497	M	98	421
Criminal Court of the City of NEW YORK .	2	E	D	265,719		240,364		90	1,983
NEW YORK District and City	2	E	D	215,981	F	204,650	F	95	1,612
NEW YORK Town and Village	2	E	B	N/A		N/A			
NEW YORK State Total				538,056	*	500,511	*	93	4,016
NORTH CAROLINA Superior	1	B	A	76,179		74,000		97	1,617
NORTH CAROLINA District	2	C	G	410,026	F	396,393	F	97	8,705
NORTH CAROLINA State Total				486,205	*	470,393	*	97	10,323
NORTH DAKOTA District	1	B	A	1,482	C	1,313	C	89	303
NORTH DAKOTA County	2	E	F	15,670	1	16,332	1	104	3,204
NORTH DAKOTA Municipal	2	B	B	N/A		N/A			
NORTH DAKOTA State Total				17,152	*	17,645	*		3,508
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	1	B	C	38,374		38,009		99	486
OHIO County	2	B	E	40,100	F	38,684	F	96	508
OHIO Municipal	2	B	E	366,871	F	376,429	F	103	4,645
OHIO Mayors'	2	M	M	N/A		N/A			
OHIO State Total				445,345	*	453,122	*		5,638
OKLAHOMA District	1	J	A	71,419	F	65,273	F	91	2,968
OKLAHOMA State Total				71,419	*	65,273	*	91	2,968
OREGON Circuit	1	E	G	22,533	M	21,731	M	96	1,120
OREGON District	2	E	G	72,927	K	67,604	K	93	3,625
OREGON Justice	2	E	B	N/A		N/A			
OREGON Municipal	2	A	B	N/A		N/A			
OREGON State Total				95,460	*	89,335	*	94	4,745
PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	1	B	A	98,880	1	98,963	1	100	1,094
PENNSYLVANIA District Justice Court	2	B	B	420,018	F	364,668	F	87	4,647
Philadelphia Municipal Court, PENNSYLVANIA	2	B	B	19,738	1	19,691	1	100	218
Pittsburgh City Magistrates, PENNSYLVANIA	2	B	B	10,904	O	N/A			121
PENNSYLVANIA State Total				549,540	*	483,322	*		6,080
PUERTO RICO Superior	1	A	B	27,629	C	25,778	C	93	
PUERTO RICO District	2	A	B	53,294	O	53,220	O	100	
PUERTO RICO Total				80,923	*	78,998	*	98	
RHODE ISLAND Superior	1	D	A	5,522		5,404		98	738
RHODE ISLAND District	2	A	B	41,572	C	36,794	C	89	5,558
RHODE ISLAND State Total				47,094	*	42,198	*	90	6,296
SOUTH CAROLINA Circuit	1	B	A	48,057	M	46,859	M	98	1,970
SOUTH CAROLINA Magistrate	2	B	E	N/A		110,649	V		
SOUTH CAROLINA Municipal	2	B	E	67,224	K	N/A			2,756
SOUTH CAROLINA State Total				115,281	*	157,508	*		4,727

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit	1	B	B	33,827	17,662 V		6,633
SOUTH DAKOTA State Total				33,827	17,662 *		6,633
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery	1	Z	A	44,503 1	40,106 1	90	1,253
TENNESSEE General Sessions	2	M	M	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE Municipal	2	M	M	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE State Total				44,503 *	40,106 *	90	1,253
TEXAS District	1	B	A	128,612	146,074	114	1,094
TEXAS Municipal	2	A	B	472,992 1	343,257 1	73	4,024
TEXAS Justice of the Peace	2	A	B	555,580 V	368,080 V	66	
TEXAS County-Level	2	B	F	450,519	398,571 1		3,833
TEXAS State Total				1,607,703 *	1,255,982 *	78	8,950
UTAH District	1	J	A	5,055 C	7,787 C	154	483
UTAH Circuit	2	B	A	44,012 O	40,480 O	92	4,208
UTAH Justice of the Peace	2	B	B	47,109 C	41,305 C	88	4,504
UTAH State Total				96,176 *	89,572 *	93	9,195
VERMONT Superior	1	I	I	1	4	400	.3
VERMONT District	1	D	C	20,706 F	20,576 F	99	5,164
VERMONT State Total				20,707 *	20,580 *	99	5,164
VIRGINIA Circuit	1	A	A	71,283 F	67,944 F	95	1,639
VIRGINIA District	2	A	E	394,813 L	379,739 L	96	9,078
VIRGINIA State Total				466,096 *	447,683 *	96	10,717
WASHINGTON Superior	1	G	A	20,763	17,128	82	628
WASHINGTON District	2	C	B	111,102 C	N/A		2,555
WASHINGTON Municipal	2	C	B	83,609	N/A		2,528
WASHINGTON State Total				215,474 *	17,128		5,711
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit	1	J	A	6,931 E	6,445 O		490
WEST VIRGINIA Magistrate	2	J	E	136,553 K	127,476 K	93	9,650
WEST VIRGINIA Municipal	2	A	B	N/A	N/A		
WEST VIRGINIA State Total				143,484 *	133,921 *	93	10,140
WISCONSIN Circuit	1	D	C	66,329 1	59,172 1	89	1,888
WISCONSIN Municipal	2	A	B	N/A	N/A		
WISCONSIN State Total				66,329 *	59,172 *	89	1,888
WYOMING District	1	J	A	1,466 M	1,461 M	100	415
WYOMING Justice of the Peace	2	J	B	3,776	N/A		1,070
WYOMING Municipal	2	A	B	N/A	N/A		
WYOMING County	2	J	B	11,233	2,801 M		3,182
WYOMING State Total				16,475 *	4,262 *		4,667

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1986. (continued)

NOTE: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report criminal data for 1986, and did not respond to the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide. All other state courts are listed in this table, regardless of whether data are available. All data that are at least 75% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filings per 100,000 population" State Total figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due to rounding.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

1 = General Jurisdiction
2 = Limited Jurisdiction

UNIT OF COUNT CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Single defendant--single charge
B = Single defendant--single incident (one/more charges)
C = Single defendant--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
D = Single defendant--one/more incidents
E = Single defendant--content varies with prosecutor
F = One/more defendants--single charge
G = One/more defendants--single incident (one/more charges)
H = One/more defendants--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
J = One/more defendants--one/more incidents
K = One/more defendants--content varies with prosecutor
L = Inconsistent during reporting year
Z = Both the defendant and charge components vary within the state

POINT OF FILING CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = At the filing of the information/indictment
B = At the filing of the complaint
C = When defendant enters plea/initial appearance
D = When docketed
E = At issuing of warrant
F = At filing of information/complaint
G = Varies (At filing of the complaint, information, indictment)

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote will have impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
  Alabama--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings.
  Alaska--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some moving traffic cases and all ordinance violation cases.
  Arkansas--Circuit Court--Total criminal disposed data include postconviction remedy and probation revocation proceedings.
  Colorado--District, Denver Superior, Denver Juvenile, and Denver Probate Courts--Total criminal filed and disposed data include extraditions, revocations, parole and release from commitment hearings.
  Kentucky--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include sentence review only and some postconviction remedy proceedings.
  Maryland--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some postconviction remedy proceedings.
  Montana--District Court--Total criminal filed data include reopened cases.
  Nebraska--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include civil appeals cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.
  New Mexico--Magistrate Court--Total criminal filed data include preliminary hearing proceedings.
  North Dakota--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.
  Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.
  Rhode Island--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings, moving traffic, and ordinance violation cases.
  Utah--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some postconviction remedy and all sentence review only proceedings.
    --Justice of the Peace Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include traffic cases.
  Washington--District Court-Total criminal filed data include some Municipal Court cases.

E: The following courts' data include post-conviction remedy proceedings:
  Alabama--Circuit Court
  Delaware--Superior Court
  West Virginia--Circuit Court (filed data)

(continued on next page)

F: The following courts' data include ordinance violation cases:
- Delaware--Family Court
- Minnesota--District Court
- New Jersey--Municipal Court
- New York--District and City Court
- North Carolina--District Court
- Ohio--County Court--Municipal Court
- Oklahoma--District Court
- Pennsylvania--District Justice Court
- Vermont--District Court
- Virginia--Circuit Court

I: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
- Arizona--Justice of the Peace Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases.
- Colorado--County Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony and DWI/DUI cases.
- Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some limited felony cases.
  - --Justice of the Peace Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include most DWI/DUI cases.
- Georgia--State Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony and DWI/DUI cases.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include reopened prior cases.
  - --District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some criminal cases that could not be separated from ordinance violation cases.
- Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include appeals or miscellaneous criminal cases.
  - --County Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include miscellaneous criminal cases.
  - --Municipal Court of Marion County--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include miscellaneous criminal cases.
- Iowa--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some misdemeanor cases.
- Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Housing, District, Boston Municipal, and Juvenile Court Departments)--Total criminal filed data do not include felony/misdemeanor, DWI/DUI and miscellaneous criminal cases from the Boston Municipal Court Department.
- North Dakota--County Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony and criminal appeals cases.
- Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some criminal appeals cases.
  - --Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some misdemeanor and all limited felony cases.
- Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Court--Total criminal filed data do not include miscellaneous criminal cases. Total criminal disposed data do not include miscellaneous criminal and DWI/DUI cases.
- Texas--Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases and represent a 76% reporting rate.
  - --County-Level Courts--Total criminal disposed data do not include some criminal appeals cases.
- Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include criminal appeals and some DWI/DUI cases.

K: The following courts' data do not include limited felony cases:
- New Hampshire--District Court--Municipal Court
- Oregon--District Court
- South Carolina----Municipal Court
- Washington--District Court
- West Virginia--Magistrate Court

L: The following courts' data do not include DWI/DUI cases:
- Connecticut--Superior Court
- District of Columbia--Superior Court
- Louisiana--District Court--This figure is estimated by the State Court Administrator's Office on the basis that 70% of criminal cases reported (277,072) are traffic cases.
- Maryland--District Court (disposed data)
- Virginia--District Court

M: The following courts' data do not include criminal appeals cases:
- Alaska--Superior Court
- New York--Supreme and County Court
- Oregon--Circuit Court
- South Carolina--Circuit Court
- Wyoming--District Court--County Court (disposed data)

O: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are overinclusive:
- Arkansas--Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include cases from several municipalities.
  - --City Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include data from all courts.
- California--Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some ordinance violation cases and preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.
  - --Justice Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers, and ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1986. (continued)

Delaware--Municipal Court of Wilmington--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, and a few DWI/DUI cases, but do not include limited felony cases.

Georgia--Superior Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include some criminal appeals and some DWI/DUI cases.

Idaho--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings, but do not include felony and some DWI/DUI cases.

Illinois--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some preliminary hearings and some ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI and miscellaneous criminal cases.

Kentucky--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include sentence review only proceedings, but do not include limited felony cases.

Maine--Superior Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings, but do not include some criminal appeals cases.

Michigan--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

--Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Nebraska--County Court--Total criminal data include ordinance violations, but do not include limited felony cases.

New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include limited felony cases.

Pennsylvania--Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court--Total criminal filed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include limited felony and limited DWI/DUI cases.

Puerto Rico--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Utah--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some miscellaneous criminal cases.

West Virginia--Circuit Court--Total criminal disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include criminal appeals cases.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:

Georgia--Probate Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include DWI/DUI and most misdemeanor cases.

Maine--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony, DWI/DUI and some misdemeanor cases.

South Carolina--Magistrate Court--Total criminal disposed data do not include limited felony and DWI/DUI cases.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total criminal disposed data do not include some misdemeanor cases.

Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases.

X: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete and are overinclusive:

Louisiana--City and Parish Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1986

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Park-ing	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes		Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA District	2	1	236,628		219,604		93	5,838
ALABAMA Municipal	2	1	N/A		N/A			
ALABAMA State Total			236,628		219,604		93	5,838
ALASKA District	2	3	N/A		83,744	1		
ALASKA State Total			N/A		83,744	*		
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace	2	1	420,814	1	402,569	1	96	12,679
ARIZONA Municipal	2	1	757,050	1	743,517	1	98	22,810
ARIZONA State Total			1,177,864	*	1,146,086	*	97	35,489
ARKANSAS Municipal	2	1	322,066	V	216,172	V	67	
ARKANSAS City	2	1	15,649	V	9,444	V	60	
ARKANSAS Police	2	1	N/A		N/A			
ARKANSAS State Total			337,715	*	225,616	*	67	
CALIFORNIA Municipal	2	3	15,675,360	0	12,823,767	0	82	58,098
CALIFORNIA Justice	2	3	502,997	0	431,705	0	86	1,864
CALIFORNIA State Total			16,178,357	*	13,255,472	*	82	59,962
COLORADO County	2	2	195,393	G	189,686	G	97	5,981
COLORADO Municipal	2	1	N/A		N/A			
COLORADO State Total			195,393	*	189,686	*	97	5,981
CONNECTICUT Superior	1	1	525,257	0	530,380	0	101	16,471
CONNECTICUT State Total			525,257	*	530,380	*		16,471
Municipal Court of Wilmington, DELAWARE	2	4	17,801	0	17,526	0	98	2,812
DELAWARE Family	2	2	459		472		103	73
DELAWARE Justice of the Peace	2	2	129,218	C	128,128	C	99	20,414
DELAWARE Alderman's	2	4	21,514	N	21,006	N	98	3,399
DELAWARE State Total			168,992	*	167,132	*	99	26,697
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	1	3	23,256	G	23,146	G	100	3,721
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Total			23,256	*	23,146	*		3,721
FLORIDA County	2	1	2,966,230		2,845,940		96	25,407
FLORIDA State Total			2,966,230		2,845,940		96	25,407
GEORGIA Superior	1	2	6,969	0	6,982	0	100	114
GEORGIA State	2	2	231,429	C	223,942	C	97	3,791
GEORGIA Probate	2	2	190,528	X	185,695	X	97	
GEORGIA Juvenile	1	2	2,057		1,771		86	34
GEORGIA Magistrate	2	2	33,927	1	10,407	1	31	556
GEORGIA County Recorder's	2	1	N/A		N/A			
GEORGIA Municipal and City of Atlanta	2	1	N/A		N/A			
GEORGIA State Total			464,910	*	428,797	*	92	4,495

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Park-ing	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes		Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
HAWAII Circuit	1	2	178	1	154	1	87	17
HAWAII District	2	4	908,362	C	849,137	C	93	85,453
HAWAII State Total			908,540	*	849,291	*	93	85,469
IDAHO District	1	3	215,841	V	216,604	V	100	
IDAHO State Total			215,841	*	216,604	*		
ILLINOIS Circuit	1	4	6,310,072	O	3,773,178	O	60	54,628
ILLINOIS State Total			6,310,072	*	3,773,178	*	60	54,628
INDIANA Superior and Circuit	1	3	172,501		168,495		98	3,135
INDIANA County	2	4	162,641		151,859		93	2,955
Municipal Court of Marion County, INDIANA	2	3	150,634		134,040		89	2,737
INDIANA City and Town	2	3	152,893		152,639		100	2,778
INDIANA State Total			638,669		607,033		95	11,606
IOWA District	1	3	686,348	C	682,390	C	99	24,082
IOWA State Total			686,348	*	682,390	*	99	24,082
KANSAS District	1	2	235,992	1	229,780	1	97	9,593
KANSAS Municipal	2	1	N/A		N/A			
KANSAS State Total			235,992	*	229,780	*	97	9,593
KENTUCKY District	2	3	279,498	N	280,405	N	100	7,495
KENTUCKY State Total			279,498	*	280,405	*		7,495
LOUISIANA District	1	1	193,951	G	N/A			4,308
LOUISIANA City and Parish	2	1	398,003	C	324,647	C	82	8,841
LOUISIANA Justice of the Peace	2	1	N/A		N/A			
LOUISIANA Mayor's	2	1	N/A		N/A			
LOUISIANA State Total			591,954	*	324,647	*		13,149
MAINE Superior	1	2	2,984	O	2,805	O	94	254
MAINE District	2	4	172,269	C	169,615	C	98	14,686
MAINE State Total			175,253	*	172,420	*	98	14,941
MARYLAND District	2	2	840,305		799,863	G		18,828
MARYLAND State Total			840,305		799,863	*	95	18,828
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	1	1	1,324,696	1	1,065,357	1	80	22,714
MASSACHUSETTS State Total			1,324,696	*	1,065,357	*	80	22,714
MICHIGAN District	2	4	2,343,720	O	2,153,915	O	92	25,631
MICHIGAN Municipal	2	4	38,354	O	38,382	O	100	419
MICHIGAN Probate	2	2	N/A		N/A			
MICHIGAN State Total			2,382,074	*	2,192,297	*	92	26,051

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MINNESOTA District	1	4	1,520,106 0	1,499,575 0	99	36,073
MINNESOTA State Total			1,520,106 *	1,499,575 *	99	36,073
MISSOURI Circuit	1	3	425,919 1	409,932 1	96	8,407
MISSOURI State Total			425,919 *	409,932 *	96	8,407
MONTANA Justice of the Peace	2	1	N/A	N/A		
MONTANA City	2	1	N/A	N/A		
MONTANA Municipal	2	1	N/A	N/A		
MONTANA State Total			N/A	N/A		
NEBRASKA County	2	1	275,970 1	282,079 1	102	17,281
NEBRASKA State Total			275,970 *	282,079 *		17,281
NEVADA Justice	2	1	N/A	N/A		
NEVADA Municipal	2	1	N/A	N/A		
NEVADA State Total			N/A	N/A		
NEW HAMPSHIRE District	2	4	264,856	N/A		25,789
NEW HAMPSHIRE Municipal	2	4	6,226	N/A		606
NEW HAMPSHIRE State Total			271,082	N/A		26,396
NEW JERSEY Municipal	2	4	5,100,863 N	4,271,680 N	84	66,940
NEW JERSEY State Total			5,100,863 *	4,271,680 *	84	66,940
NEW MEXICO Magistrate	2	3	32,580	N/A		2,203
NEW MEXICO Municipal	2	1	N/A	N/A		
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County, NEW MEXICO	2	4	353,566 N	226,876 1		23,906
NEW MEXICO State Total			386,146 *	226,876 *		26,109
Criminal Court of the City of NEW YORK	2	4	123,712 V	121,057 V	98	
NEW YORK District and City	2	4	N/A	1,024,466 N		
NEW YORK Town and Village	2	1	N/A	N/A		
NEW YORK State Total			123,712 *	1,145,523 *		
NORTH CAROLINA District	2	3	895,340 N	813,632 1	91	14,135
NORTH CAROLINA State Total			895,340 *	813,632 *	91	14,135
NORTH DAKOTA District	1	4	415	415	100	61
NORTH DAKOTA County	2	1	56,122	56,122	100	8,265
NORTH DAKOTA Municipal	2	1	N/A	45,002 X		
NORTH DAKOTA State Total			56,537	101,539 *		8,327

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	1	2	110,559	107,533	97	1,028
OHIO County	2	2	211,898 N	207,753 N	98	1,971
OHIO Municipal	2	2	1,462,124 N	1,446,981 N	99	13,597
OHIO Mayors'	2	1	N/A	N/A		
OHIO State Total			1,784,581 *	1,762,267 *	99	16,596
OKLAHOMA District	1	2	216,954 N	202,664 N	93	6,564
OKLAHOMA Municipal Criminal Court of Record	2	1	N/A	N/A		
OKLAHOMA Municipal Court Not of Record	2	1	N/A	N/A		
OKLAHOMA State Total			216,954 *	202,664 *	93	6,564
OREGON District	2	1	304,943	281,249	92	11,303
OREGON Justice	2	3	N/A	N/A		
OREGON Municipal	2	3	N/A	N/A		
OREGON State Total			304,943	281,249	92	11,303
PENNSYLVANIA District Justice Court	2	4	1,250,396 N	1,183,595 N	95	10,518
Philadelphia Municipal Court, PENNSYLVANIA	2	2	22,709 0	22,323 0	98	191
Pittsburgh City Magistrates, PENNSYLVANIA	2	4	373,369 N	N/A		3,141
Philadelphia Traffic Court, PENNSYLVANIA	2	1	N/A	N/A		
PENNSYLVANIA State Total			1,646,474 *	1,205,918 *		13,850
PUERTO RICO District	2	2	65,115 0	65,323 0	100	1,993
PUERTO RICO Municipal	2	1	N/A	N/A		
PUERTO RICO Total			65,115 *	65,323 *		1,993
RHODE ISLAND District	2	2	N/A	N/A		
RHODE ISLAND Municipal	2	1	N/A	N/A		
RHODE ISLAND State Total			N/A	N/A		
SOUTH CAROLINA Family	2	2	N/A	N/A		
SOUTH CAROLINA Magistrate	2	4	N/A	399,705 C		
SOUTH CAROLINA Municipal	2	4	297,041	N/A		8,799
SOUTH CAROLINA State Total			297,041	399,705 *		8,799
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit	1	3	130,873	142,776 C		18,485
SOUTH DAKOTA State Total			130,873	142,776 *		18,485
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery	1	2	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE General Sessions	2	1	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE Municipal	2	1	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE State Total			N/A	N/A		
TEXAS Municipal	2	4	6,095,224 1	4,871,130 1	80	36,531
TEXAS Justice of the Peace	2	4	1,533,174 V	1,346,789 V	88	
TEXAS County-Level	2	2	19,160	63,364 C		115
TEXAS State Total			7,647,558 *	6,281,283 *	82	36,646

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Park-ing	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
UTAH Circuit	2	4	492,148 C	404,406 C	82	29,558
UTAH Justice of the Peace	2	4	263,727 1	253,722 1	96	15,839
UTAH Juvenile	2	2	N/A	N/A		
UTAH State Total			755,875 *	658,128 *	87	45,398
VERMONT District	1	2	115,126 N	106,924 N	93	21,280
VERMONT State Total			115,126 *	106,924 *	93	21,280
VIRGINIA Circuit	1	2	N/A	N/A		
VIRGINIA District	2	4	1,381,673 G	1,367,303 G	99	23,875
VIRGINIA State Total			1,381,673 *	1,367,303 *	99	23,875
WASHINGTON District	2	4	557,696	N/A		12,496
WASHINGTON Municipal	2	4	1,062,043	N/A		23,797
WASHINGTON State Total			1,619,739	N/A		36,293
WEST VIRGINIA Magistrate	2	2	106,561	104,954	98	5,553
WEST VIRGINIA Municipal	2	1	N/A	N/A		
WEST VIRGINIA State Total			106,561	104,954	98	5,553
WISCONSIN Circuit	1	3	141,255	139,581	99	2,952
WISCONSIN Municipal	2	3	N/A	325,896 V		
WISCONSIN State Total			141,255	465,477 *		2,952
WYOMING Justice of the Peace	2	1	26,339	29,910 C		5,195
WYOMING Municipal	2	1	N/A	N/A		
WYOMING County	2	1	81,858	87,785 C		16,146
WYOMING State Total			108,197	117,695 *		21,341

NOTE: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report traffic/other violation data for 1986, and did not respond to the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide. All other state courts are listed in this table, regardless of whether data are available. All data that are at least 75% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filings per 100,000 population" State Total figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due to rounding.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

1 = General Jurisdiction
2 = Limited Jurisdiction

PARKING CODES:

1 = Parking data are unavailable
2 = Court does not have parking jurisdiction
3 = Only contested parking cases are included
4 = Both contested and uncontested parking cases are included

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote will have impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
Delaware--Justice of the Peace Court--
Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include most of the DWI/DUI cases.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1986. (continued)

Georgia--State Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include most of the DWI/DUI cases.
Hawaii--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some misdemeanor cases.
Iowa--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some misdemeanor cases.
Louisiana--City and Parish Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases.
Maine--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some misdemeanor and all DWI/DUI cases.
South Carolina--Magistrate Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include DWI/DUI and juvenile cases.
South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include some misdemeanor and some criminal appeals cases.
Texas--County-Level Courts--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include criminal appeals cases.
Utah--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some miscellaneous criminal cases.
Wyoming--Justice of the Peace Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include all criminal cases.
--County Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include misdemeanor and DWI/DUI cases.

G: The following courts' data include DWI/DUI cases:
Colorado--County Court
Louisiana--District Court--This figure is estimated by the State Court Administrator's Office on the basis that 70% of criminal cases reported (277,072) are traffic cases.
District of Columbia--Superior Court
Virginia--District Court
Maryland--District Court (disposed data)

I: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
Alaska--District Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data do not include some moving traffic violation cases and all ordinance violation cases.
Arizona--Justice of the Peace--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include parking and miscellaneous traffic cases.
--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation, parking and miscellaneous traffic cases.
Georgia--Magistrate Court--Total traffic/other violation data do not include cases from 19 counties.
Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include reopened prior cases reported with the civil data.
Kansas--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include juvenile traffic cases.
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total traffic/other violation filed data do not include parking, and some miscellaneous traffic cases. Disposed data do not include parking, ordinance violation, some moving traffic, and some miscellaneous traffic cases.
Missouri--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation and parking cases heard by Municipal judges.
Nebraska--County Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation or parking cases.
New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County--Total traffic/other violation disposed data do not include ordinance violations and some miscellaneous traffic cases.
North Carolina--District Court--Total traffic/other data disposed do not include ordinance violations and some miscellaneous traffic cases.
Texas--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation data do not include some cases due to a reporting rate of only 76%.
Utah--Justice of the Peace Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include some moving traffic cases.

N: The following courts' data do not include ordinance violation cases:
Delaware--Alderman's Court
Kentucky--District Court
New Jersey--Municipal Court
New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County (filed data)
New York--District and City Court (disposed data)
North Carolina--District Court (Filed data)
Ohio--County Court--Municipal Court
Oklahoma--District Court
Pennsylvania--District Justice Court--Pittsburgh City Magistrates
Vermont--District Court

O: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are overinclusive:
California--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include some ordinance violation cases.
--Justice Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include some ordinance violation cases.

(continued on next page)

Connecticut--Superior Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases and uncontested parking cases.

Delaware--Municipal Court of Wilmington--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include most DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Georgia--Superior Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some DWI/DUI cases and some criminal appeals cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Illinois--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases from Cook County and parking cases from anywhere but Cook County.

Maine--Superior Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI and some criminal appeals cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Michigan--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation cases, but do include DWI/DUI cases.

--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation cases, but do include DWI/DUI cases.

Minnesota--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some misdemeanors but do not include all ordinance violation cases.

Puerto Rico--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:

Arkansas--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation and parking cases, and are missing all data from several municipalities.

--City Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation and parking cases and are missing all traffic data from several courts.

Idaho--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation and parking cases.

New York--Criminal Court of the City of New York--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, and some ordinance violation cases.

Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 74%.

Wisconsin--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data represent only 144 of the 203 municipal courts.

X: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete and are overinclusive:

Georgia--Probate Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases but represent a traffic data reporting rate of less than 75%.

North Dakota--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation or parking cases.

TABLE 12: Reported Total State Trial Court Juvenile Caseload, 1986

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
ALABAMA Circuit	1	A	18,192 C	22,921 C	126	1,632
ALABAMA District	2	A	31,892	29,498	92	2,860
ALABAMA State Total			50,084 *	52,419 *		4,492
ALASKA Superior	1	C	1,907	1,474	77	1,115
ALASKA District	2	I	143	73	51	84
ALASKA State Total			2,050	1,547	75	1,199
ARIZONA Superior	1	C	11,453	7,940	69	1,257
ARIZONA State Total			11,453	7,940	69	1,257
ARKANSAS County	2	B	8,659 1	8,882 1	103	1,342
ARKANSAS State Total			8,659 *	8,882 *		1,342
CALIFORNIA Superior	1	C	86,545	69,849	81	1,217
CALIFORNIA State Total			86,545	69,849	81	1,217
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate	1	A	15,129	13,251	88	1,747
COLORADO State Total			15,129	13,251	88	1,747
CONNECTICUT Superior	1	F	12,619	12,643	100	1,665
CONNECTICUT State Total			12,619	12,643		1,665
DELAWARE Family	2	C	6,237 V	5,931 V	95	
DELAWARE State Total			6,237 *	5,931 *	95	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior	1	B	12,508	12,440	99	9,130
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Total			12,508	12,440	99	9,130
FLORIDA Circuit	1	A	88,104	59,322	67	3,350
FLORIDA State Total			88,104	59,322	67	3,350
GEORGIA Juvenile	1	A	39,731	35,473	89	2,319
GEORGIA State Total			39,731	35,473	89	2,319
HAWAII Circuit	1	F	15,415	13,102	85	5,390
HAWAII State Total			15,415	13,102	85	5,390
IDAHO District	1	C	6,680	6,935	104	2,148
IDAHO State Total			6,680	6,935		2,148
ILLINOIS Circuit	1	C	28,525	27,536	97	933
ILLINOIS State Total			28,525	27,536	97	933

(continued on next page)

TABLE 12: Reported total state trial court juvenile caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
INDIANA Superior and Circuit	1	C	30,469 C	28,362 C	93	2,063
INDIANA Probate	2	C	N/A	N/A		
INDIANA State Total			30,469 *	28,362 *	93	2,063
IOWA District	1	A	6,352	N/A		850
IOWA State Total			6,352	N/A		850
KANSAS District	1	A	11,823 C	10,882 C	92	1,830
KANSAS State Total			11,823 *	10,882 *	92	1,830
KENTUCKY District	2	A	39,254 C	34,780 C	89	3,890
KENTUCKY State Total			39,254 *	34,780 *	89	3,890
LOUISIANA District	1	C	17,959	N/A		1,333
LOUISIANA Family and Juvenile	1	C	29,076 C	N/A		2,159
LOUISIANA City and Parish	2	C	10,599	10,009	94	787
LOUISIANA State Total			57,634 *	10,009		4,279
MAINE District	2	C	3,840	3,392	88	1,272
MAINE State Total			3,840	3,392	88	1,272
MARYLAND Circuit	1	C	30,641	28,937	94	2,758
MARYLAND District	2	C	3,683	3,770	102	332
MARYLAND State Total			34,324	32,707	95	3,089
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	1	C	45,438	23,942 V		3,388
MASSACHUSETTS State Total			45,438	23,942 *		3,388
MICHIGAN Probate	2	C	17,322 O	N/A		701
MICHIGAN State Total			17,322 *	N/A		701
MINNESOTA District	1	C	52,709	51,970	99	47,486
MINNESOTA State Total			52,709	51,970	99	47,486
MISSOURI Circuit	1	C	19,130 C	18,752 C	98	1,461
MISSOURI State Total			19,130 *	18,752 *	98	1,461
MONTANA District	1	C	1,381 C	1,127		488
MONTANA State Total			1,381 *	1,127		488
NEBRASKA County	2	C	3,419	3,479	102	801
NEBRASKA Separate Juvenile	2	C	1,979	N/A		464
NEBRASKA State Total			5,398	3,479		1,264
NEVADA District	1	C	N/A	N/A		
NEVADA State Total			N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 12: Reported total state trial court juvenile caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
NEW HAMPSHIRE District	2	C	6,790	N/A		2,612
NEW HAMPSHIRE State Total			6,790	N/A		2,612
NEW JERSEY Superior	1	C	109,197 C	107,705 C	99	5,964
NEW JERSEY State Total			109,197 *	107,705 *	99	5,964
NEW MEXICO District	1	C	7,763	7,298	94	1,748
NEW MEXICO State Total			7,763	7,298	94	1,748
NEW YORK Family	2	C	44,851 C	45,651 C	102	1,025
NEW YORK State Total			44,851 *	45,651 *		1,025
NORTH CAROLINA District	2	C	22,537	24,976	111	1,388
NORTH CAROLINA State Total			22,537	24,976		1,388
NORTH DAKOTA District	1	C	1,441	1,441	100	758
NORTH DAKOTA State Total			1,441	1,441		758
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	1	E	116,028	114,676	99	4,065
OHIO State Total			116,028	114,676	99	4,065
OKLAHOMA District	1	G	N/A	N/A		
OKLAHOMA State Total			N/A	N/A		
OREGON Circuit	1	C	16,348 1	N/A		2,383
OREGON County	2	C	N/A	N/A		
OREGON State Total			16,348 *	N/A		2,383
PENNSYLVANIA Court of Common Pleas	1	F	48,384	47,852	99	1,698
PENNSYLVANIA State Total			48,384	47,852	99	1,698
PUERTO RICO Superior	1	C	5,243 C	4,977 C	95	
PUERTO RICO Total			5,243 *	4,977 *	95	
RHODE ISLAND Family	2	F	6,570	N/A		2,894
RHODE ISLAND State Total			6,570	N/A		2,894
SOUTH CAROLINA Family	2	C	12,235 C	12,119 C	99	1,306
SOUTH CAROLINA Magistrate	2	I	N/A	N/A		
SOUTH CAROLINA State Total			12,235 *	12,119 *	99	1,306
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit	1	B	2,466	N/A		1,245
SOUTH DAKOTA State Total			2,466	N/A		1,245
TENNESSEE Juvenile	2	B	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE General Sessions	2	B	N/A	N/A		
TENNESSEE State Total						

(continued on next page)

TABLE 12: Reported total state trial court juvenile caseload, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
TEXAS District	1	C	11,625 i	12,457 i	107	236
TEXAS County-Level	2	C	2,863 V	2,979 V	104	
TEXAS State Total			14,488 *	15,436 *		
UTAH Juvenile	2	C	N/A	N/A		
UTAH State Total			N/A	N/A		
VERMONT District	1	C	1,853	1,846	100	1,324
VERMONT State Total			1,853	1,846		1,324
VIRGINIA District	2	A	82,213	76,321	93	5,717
VIRGINIA State Total			82,213	76,321	93	5,717
WASHINGTON Superior	1	A	22,514	21,086	94	1,948
WASHINGTON State Total			22,514	21,086	94	1,948
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit	1	C	6,255	6,357	102	1,241
WEST VIRGINIA State Total			6,255	6,357		1,241
WISCONSIN Circuit	1	C	18,329	18,219	99	1,442
WISCONSIN State Total			18,329	18,219	99	1,442
WYOMING District	1	C	766	N/A		497
WYOMING State Total			766	N/A		497

NOTE: Mississippi is not included in this table because it did not report juvenile data for 1986, and did not respond to the Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide. All other state courts are listed in this table, regardless of whether data are available. All data that are at least 75% complete are entered in the table. Blank spaces indicate that either data are unavailable or less than 75% complete, or that the calculations are inappropriate. The "filings per 100,000 population" State Total figure may not equal the sum of the individual state courts due to rounding.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

1 = General Jurisdiction
2 = Limited Jurisdiction

POINT OF FILING CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Filing of complaint
B = At initial hearing (intake)
C = Filing of petition
E = Issuance of warrant
F = At referral
G = Varies

(continued on next page)

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are not incomplete or overinclusive.

* See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote will have impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
  Alabama--Circuit Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include some domestic relations cases.
  Indiana--Superior and Circuit Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include paternity/bastardy cases.
  Kansas--District Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include some traffic/other violation data.
  Kentucky--District Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include paternity/bastardy cases.
  Louisiana--Family and Juvenile Court--Total juvenile filed data include domestic relations and mental health cases.
  Missouri--Circuit Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include adoption and termination of parental rights cases.
  Montana--District Court--Total juvenile filed data include reopened cases.
  New Jersey--Superior Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include termination of parental rights cases.
  New York--Family Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include juvenile traffic cases.
  Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.
  South Carolina--Family Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include traffic/other violation cases.

I: The following courts' data are 75% complete:
  Arkansas--County Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include cases from several counties.
  Oregon--Circuit Court--Total juvenile filed data do not include petitions filed in Marion County.
  Texas--District Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include child-victim petitions.

O: The following court's data are 75% complete and are overinclusive:
  Michigan--Probate Court--Total juvenile filed data include traffic/other violation cases, but do not include status petitions.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:
  Delaware--Family Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include status petitions and child-victim petitions.
  Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total juvenile disposed data do not include any cases from the Juvenile Court Department and appeals from the District Court Department.
  Texas--County-Level Courts--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include child-victim petitions.

Part V

Figures

FIGURE A: Reporting Periods for All State Trial Courts, 1986

	Reporting periods			
State	January 1, 1986 to December 31, 1986	July 1, 1985 to June 30, 1986	September 1, 1985 to August 31, 1986	October 1, 1985 to September 30, 1986
Alabama				X
Alaska		X		
Arizona	X			
Arkansas		X		
California		X		
Colorado		X		
Connecticut		X		
Delaware		X		
District of Columbia	X			
Florida	X			
Georgia	X Court of Appeals	X Trial Courts	X Supreme Court (Aug. 1, 1985 - July 31, 1986)	
Hawaii		X		
Idaho	X			
Illinois	X			
Indiana	X			
Iowa	X			
Kansas		X		
Kentucky		X		
Louisiana	X			
Maine	X			
Maryland		X		
Massachusetts		X Trial Courts	X Supreme Judicial Court Appeals Court	
Michigan	X Trial Courts Court of Appeals	X Supreme Court		
Minnesota	X			
Mississippi	X Supreme Court			
Missouri		X		
Montana	X Supreme Court District Court	X Justice of the Peace City Court Municipal Court		
Nebraska	X District Court County Court Separate Juvenile	X Workmen's Compensation Court	X Supreme Court	
Nevada	X			
New Hampshire	X Supreme Court Municipal Court Superior Court District Court	X Probate Court		

(continued on next page)

FIGURE A: Reporting periods for all state courts, 1986. (continued)

State	Reporting periods January 1, 1986 to December 31, 1986	July 1, 1985 to June 30, 1986	September 1, 1985 to August 31, 1986	October 1, 1985 to September 30, 1986
New Jersey		X		
New Mexico		X		
New York	X			
North Carolina		X		
North Dakota	X			
Ohio	X			
Oklahoma		X		
Oregon	X			
Pennsylvania	X			
Puerto Rico		X		
Rhode Island	X Trial Courts			X Supreme Court
South Carolina	X			
South Dakota		X		
Tennessee	X			
Texas			X	
Utah	X Supreme Court	X Trial Courts		
Vermont		X		
Virginia	X			
Washington	X			
West Virginia	X			
Wisconsin	X			
Wyoming	X			

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, an "X" means that all of the trial and appellate courts in that state report data for the time period indicated by the column.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1986 State Trial and Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1986

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
ALABAMA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Civil Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
ALASKA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
ARIZONA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X-CRIM	0	0	X*	X	0	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	X-CRIM*	X*	0	X*	X (except industrial cases & civil petition for special action)	X (only industrial cases & civil petition for special action)	0	0	X
ARKANSAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
CALIFORNIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	X	0	0	X (death penalty only)	COLR (if petition for review of IAC)	X	0	0
Courts of Appeal	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
COLORADO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
CONNECTICUT:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if motion to reconsider)	0	X (if new appeal)
Appellate Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if remand by COLR)	0	X (all others reopened)
DELAWARE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
FLORIDA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	IAC	X	0	0
District Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	(Adm.Agy. and Workers Comp.)	X	0	0
GEORGIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	0	X (if new appeal)
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
HAWAII:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	X (original proceeding)	0	0	X
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	X
IDAHO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X (appeal from trial court)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	0	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	(when assigned by COLR)	0	0	0	X	0
ILLINOIS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Appellate Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
INDIANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	(any first filing, notice, record, brief or motion)	X (only death penalty and/or sentence over 10 years)	COLR (if petition for transfer from IAC)	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	(any first filing)	X (precipe)	0	0	0	X

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate court, 1986. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
IOWA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X (if appeal from trial court)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	X (if appeal from trial court)	0	X	0	0
KANSAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X*	X	0	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	X*	X	0	0	0	X
KENTUCKY:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X*	X	X (COLR if review is sought from IAC)	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
LOUISIANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
MAINE:										
Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if remanded)	0	X (if new appeal)
MARYLAND:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	0	X	0	0	X (if direct appeal)	X (IAC if appeal from IAC)	0	0	X
Court of Special Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
MASSACHUSETTS:										
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Appeals Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	X (if originally dismissed as premature)	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
MICHIGAN:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X (if remanded w/jurisdiction retained)	0	X (if new appeal)
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	X
MINNESOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
MISSISSIPPI:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X (file with both, eff. 1/1/87)	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
MISSOURI:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
MONTANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X (notice plus any other filing: fee, record, motion)	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
NEBRASKA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
NEVADA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
NEW HAMPSHIRE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X (if remanded & jurisdiction retained)	0	X

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
NEW JERSEY:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	(COLR if direct appeal, otherwise with IAC)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Appellate Division of Superior Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
NEW MEXICO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X (within 30 days of notice)	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	X (within 30 days of notice)	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
NEW YORK:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X (if remit for specific issues)	0	X (if remand for new trial)
Appellate Terms of Supreme Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
NORTH CAROLINA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X (If direct appeal)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	X (if petition to rehear)	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X (if reconsidering dismissal)	X	0
NORTH DAKOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
OHIO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	IAC	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X*	0	X	0	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
OKLAHOMA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	0	0	0	X	0	X*	0	X*
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	0	X (notice plus transcript)	0	0	X	0	X*	0	X*
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	0	COLR	X*	0	X*
OREGON:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
PENNSYLVANIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X (direct appeal only)	0	0	X (discretionary certiorari granted)	X*	X*	X (if reinstated to enforce order)	X (if new appeal)	0
Superior Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Commonwealth Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	X (Admin. Agency)	0	0	X
PUERTO RICO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X-CR	X-CV	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
RHODE ISLAND:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
SOUTH CAROLINA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	X	0	X	0	0
SOUTH DAKOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE 8: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
TENNESSEE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X (Court of Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X (Court of Criminal Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
TEXAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	0	0	0	any first filing	X	X (Court of Crim. Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X (Civil only)	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
UTAH:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	0	0	0	X (court from which appealed)	X (Admin. Agency)	X	0	0
VERMONT:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if dismissed & reinstated)	0	X (if after final decision or if statistical period has ended)
VIRGINIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X (Petition for appeal)	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
WASHINGTON:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1986. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
WEST VIRGINIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (Counted as new filings as of 8/86)	0	0
WISCONSIN:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	When accepted by court	0	X	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
WYOMING:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	X

-- = Data element is inapplicable.
ADM. AGY. = Administrative agency cases only.
CR = Criminal cases only.
CV = Civil cases only.
DP = Death penalty cases only.
COLR = Court of last resort.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.

*FOOTNOTES:

Arizona--Supreme Court: Civil cases: A case is counted when the fee is paid within 30 days after trial record is filed.

Arizona--Court of Appeals: Civil cases: A case is counted when the fee is paid within 30 days after trial record is filed. For juvenile/industrial/habeas corpus cases, a case is counted at receipt of notice, or at receipt of the trial record.

California--Supreme Court: Cases are counted at the notice of appeal for discretionary review cases from the IAC.

Kansas--Cases are counted at the docketing which occurs 21 days after a notice of appeal is filed in the trial court.

Kentucky--Cases are counted at either the filing of the brief or request for intermediate relief.

Ohio--Court of Appeals: The clerk of the trial court is also the clerk of the Court of Appeals.

Oklahoma--The notice of appeal refers to the petition in error. The courts do not count reinstated cases as new filings, but do count any subsequent appeal of an earlier decided case as a new filing.

Pennsylvania--Supreme Court: Mandatory cases are filed with the trial court, and discretionary cases are filed with the appellate court.

Utah--Supreme Court: Mandatory appeals are no longer in effect as of 1/1/86; and there will be an intermediate court of appeals after 1/1/87.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1986 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract, Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in State Trial Courts, 1986

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
ALABAMA:							
Circuit Court	G	$1,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	$1,000/ $5,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Optional
ALASKA:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$25,000	$5,000	No	Yes	No
ARIZONA:							
Superior Court	G	$500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$500	No	Yes	No
ARKANSAS:							
Circuit Court	G	$100/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	$500/ $1,000 (contract only)	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $300 (contract and real property)	$300	No	Yes	No
City Court, Police Court	L	--	0/ $300 (contract and real property)	--	--	--	--
CALIFORNIA:							
Superior Court	G	$25,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0/$25,000	$1,500	No	Yes	No
Justice Court	L	--	0/$25,000	$1,500	No	Yes	No
COLORADO:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Water Court	G	0/No maximum (only real property)	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/ $5,000	$1,000	No	Yes	No
CONNECTICUT:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
DELAWARE:							
Court of Chancery	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	0/$15,000	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
Alderman's Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:							
Superior Court	G	$2,000/No maximum (no minimum for real property)	--	$2,000	Yes	Yes	Yes

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
FLORIDA:							
Circuit Court	G	$5,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	$2,500/ $5,000	$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
GEORGIA:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	No max	Yes	No	Yes
State Court	L	0/No maximum (No real property)	--	No max	Yes	Yes	Yes
Civil Court	L	--	0/ $7,500-25,000	$7,500-$25,000	No	Yes	Yes
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $2,500 (No real property)	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $7,500	$7,500	No	Yes	Yes
HAWAII:							
Circuit Court	G	$5,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000 (No maximum in summary possession or ejectment)	$2,500 (Except in residential security deposit cases.	No	Yes	Yes
IDAHO:							
District Court:	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
(Magistrates Division)	L	--	0/$10,000 0/ $2,000 (only real property)	$2,000	No	Yes	No
ILLINOIS:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
INDIANA:							
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
County Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	--	0/$20,000	--	--	--	--
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	--	--	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
City Court	L	--	0/ $500-$2,500 (No real property)	--	--	--	--
IOWA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
KANSAS:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,000	No	Yes	No

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property	Small claims			
		Minimum/maximum	Minimum/maximum	Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary proce-dures	Lawyers per-mitted
KENTUCKY:							
Circuit Court	G	$2,500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
LOUISIANA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
City Court, Parish Court	L	--	0/ $5,000	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $1,200	$1,200	No	Yes	Yes
MAINE:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$30,000	$1,400	No	Yes	Yes
MARYLAND:							
Circuit Court	G	$2,500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000 (No maximum real property)	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
MASSACHUSETTS:							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:							
Superior Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Housing Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	No	No	Yes
District Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
MICHIGAN:							
Circuit Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	No
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $1,500	$1,500	No	Yes	No
MINNESOTA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
MISSISSIPPI:		(NO DATA AVAILABLE)					
MISSOURI:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
(Associates Division)	L	--	0/ $5,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
MONTANA:							
District Court	G	$50/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $3,500	$1,500	No	Yes	No
City Court	L	--	0/ $300	$300	No	Yes	No

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
NEBRASKA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/$10,000 ($5,000 for real property)	$1,500	No	Yes	No
NEVADA:							
District Court	G	$1,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Justice Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NEW HAMPSHIRE:							
Superior Court	G	$500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $1,500	$1,500 (only landlord-tenant, and small claims)	No	Yes	Yes
NEW JERSEY:							
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
(Law Division, Special Civil Part)	L	--	0/ $5,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
NEW MEXICO:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $2,000	--	--	--	--
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	L	--	0/ $5,000	--	--	--	--
NEW YORK:							
Supreme Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	G	--	0/$25,000	--	--	--	--
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	--	0/$25,000	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
City Court	L	--	0/ $500-$15,000	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
District Court	L	--	0/$15,000	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
Court of Claims	L	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	--	0/ $3,000	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
NORTH CAROLINA:							
Superior Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
NORTH DAKOTA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$2,000	No	Yes	Varies

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
OHIO:							
Court of Common Pleas	G	$500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/ $3,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
OKLAHOMA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
OREGON:							
Circuit Court	G	$3,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/ $3,000	$1,500	No	Yes	No
Justice Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$1,500	No	Yes	No
PENNSYLVANIA:							
Court of Common Pleas	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Justice Court	L	--	0/ $4,000	--	--	--	--
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $5,000 (only real property)	$5,000	No	Yes	Yes
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	--	0/No maximum (only real property)	--	--	--	--
PUERTO RICO:							
Superior Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	--	--	--	--
RHODE ISLAND:							
Superior Court	G	$5,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	$1,000/ $5,000-$10,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
SOUTH CAROLINA:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $1,000 (no max. in landlord-tenant	--	--	--	--
SOUTH DAKOTA:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
TENNESSEE:							
Circuit Court, Chancery Court	G	$50/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
General Sessions Court	L	0/No maximum (Forcible entry, detainer, and in actions to recover personal property	0/$10,000 (All civil actions in counties with population under 700,000) 0/$15,000 (All civil actions in counties with population over 700,000)	$25,000	No	Yes	Yes

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
TEXAS:							
District Court	G	$500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court	L	--	$200/varies	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	/ $2,500 (No max. in real property)	$1,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
UTAH:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Circuit Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $1,000	$1,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
VERMONT:							
Superior Court	G	$200/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	G	--	0/ $5,000	$2,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
VIRGINIA:							
Circuit Court	G	$1,000/No maximum (0/No maximum real property)	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/ $7,000	--	--	--	--
WASHINGTON:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000 (tort) 0/ $7,500 (Contract. No real property)	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
WEST VIRGINIA:							
Circuit Court	G	$300/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $2,000 (No real property)	--	--	--	--
WISCONSIN:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,000	Yes	No	Yes
WYOMING:							
District Court	G	$4,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/ $7,000	$750	No	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $1,000	$750	No	Yes	Yes

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.
-- = Data element is inapplicable.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1986 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by State Trial Courts, 1986

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
			One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
ALABAMA:								
Circuit Court	G	Indictment		X			X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X			(No data reported)		
ALASKA:								
Superior Court	G	Indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
ARIZONA:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint		Varies with prosecutor*				
Municipal Court	L	Complaint		Varies with prosecutor*				
ARKANSAS:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
City Court, Police Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X			
CALIFORNIA:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
COLORADO:								
District Court	G	First appearance for some counties/information for cases coming up from County Court.	X					X
County Court	L	Complaint/summons	X					X
CONNECTICUT:								
Superior Court	G	Information	X				(Varies among local police departments)	
DELAWARE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
Family Court	L	Complaint/petition	X				X	
Justice of the Peace Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X			
Court of Common Pleas	L	Complaint	X		X			
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	Complaint	X		X			
Alderman's Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:								
Superior Court	G	Complaint/information/ indictment	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
FLORIDA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X			(Prosecutor decides)		
County Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
GEORGIA:								
Superior Court	G	Indictment/accusation		X			X	
State Court	L	Accusation		X			X	
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Probate Court	L	Accusation	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	No data reported						
Civil Court	L	No data reported						
County Recorder's Court	L	No data reported						
Municipal Courts and the City Court of Atlanta	L	No data reported						
HAWAII:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X				X (Most serious charge)	
District Court	L	First appearance/information	X		X			
IDAHO:								
District Court	G	Information	X					X
(Magistrates Division)	L	Complaint	X					X
ILLINOIS:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X	
INDIANA:								
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X (may not be consistent)	
County Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
City Court and Town Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
IOWA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
KANSAS:								
District Court	G	First appearance/information/indictment	X				X	
KENTUCKY:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint/citation	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
			One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
LOUISIANA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies			Varies		
City Court and Parish Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X	
MAINE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X	
MARYLAND:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Citation/information	X				X	
MASSACHUSETTS:								
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:								
Superior Court Dept.	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
Housing Court Dept.	L	Complaint	X				X	
District Court Dept.	L	Complaint	X				X	
Boston Municipal Ct.	L	Complaint	X				X	
MICHIGAN:								
Circuit Court	G	Information	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
MINNESOTA:								
District Court	G	Complaint	X				X	
MISSISSIPPI:		DATA ARE UNAVAILABLE						
MISSOURI:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
(Associate Division)	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
MONTANA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X	
Justice of Peace Court and Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
City Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
NEBRASKA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	(not consistently observed statewide)
County Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
			One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
NEVADA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
Justice Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
NEW HAMPSHIRE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
NEW JERSEY:								
Superior Court (Law Division)	G	Accusation/indictment	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
NEW MEXICO:								
District Court	G	Complaint	X				X	(May vary with prosecutor)
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
NEW YORK:								
Supreme Court	G	Defendant/Indictment	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
County Court	L	Defendant/Indictment	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	Docket number	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
District Court and City Court	L	Docket number	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	Complaint	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
NORTH CAROLINA:								
Superior Court	G	Indictment/information	X				X	
District Court	L	Warrant/summons (includes citations, Magistrates order, misdemeanor statememt of charges	X			X (2 max)		
NORTH DAKOTA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X (may vary)	
County Court	L	Complaint/information	X				Varies	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
OHIO:								
Court of Common Pleas	G	Arraignment	X				X	
County Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
Mayor's Court	L	No data reported						

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlim-ited # of charges)	One or more inci-dents
OKLAHOMA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
OREGON:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X		(Number of charges not consistent statewide)			
District Court	L	Complaint/indictment	X		(Number of charges not consistent statewide)			
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X		(Number of charges not consistent statewide)			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
PENNSYLVANIA:								
Court of Common Pleas	G	Information/docket transcript	X				X	
District Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
PUERTO RICO:								
Superior Court	G	Accusation	X		X			
District Court	L	Charge	X		X			
RHODE ISLAND:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
SOUTH CAROLINA:								
Circuit Court	G	Indictment	X				X	
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
SOUTH DAKOTA:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint	X				X	
TENNESSEE:								
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	Information/indictment	Not consistent statewide					
General Sessions Court	L	No data reported						
Municipal Court	L	No data reported						
TEXAS:								
District Court and Criminal District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
County-Level Courts	L	Complaint/information	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Justice of the Peace Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X			

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by the state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
UTAH:								
District Court	G	Information		X				X
Circuit Court	L	Information/citation	X				X	
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Citation	X				X	
VERMONT:								
District Court	G	Arraignment	X					X
VIRGINIA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
District Court	L	Warrant/summons	X		X			
WASHINGTON:								
Superior Court	G	Information		X			X	
District Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)		
WEST VIRGINIA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant		X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
WISCONSIN:								
Circuit Court	G	Initial appearance	X					X
Municipal Court	L	Citation**	X		X			
WYOMING:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
County Court	L	Complaint/information		X				X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint/information		X				X
Municipal Court	L	Citation/complaint	X		X			

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.

FOOTNOTES

*Arizona--Varies in Limited Jurisdiction courts. Prosecutor can file either long or short form. Long form can involve one or more defendants and/or charges; short form involves one defendant and a single charge.

**Wisconsin--Municipal Court--First offense DWI/DUI cases only.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1986 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1986

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
ALABAMA:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
District Court	L		X	X		18
ALASKA:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
ARIZONA:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
ARKANSAS:						
County Court	L	X			X	18
CALIFORNIA:						
Superior Court	G		X		X	18
COLORADO:						
District Court (includes Denver Juvenile Court)	G		X		X	18
CONNECTICUT:						
Superior Court	G	X			X	16
DELAWARE:						
Family Court	L		X		X	18
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:						
Superior Court	G	X			X	18
FLORIDA:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
GEORGIA:						
Superior Court and Juvenile Court	G		X		X	17
HAWAII:						
Circuit Court	G	X			X	18 (Jurisdiction may be retained until full term of the order expires, provided term does not extend beyond time juvenile reaches age 20)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile unit of count used in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
IDAHO:						
District Court	G		X	X		18
ILLINOIS:						
Circuit Court	G		X		X	17 (15 for murder, criminal sexual assault, and armed robbery with a firearm)
INDIANA:						
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
Probate Court	L		X	X		18
IOWA:						
District Court	G		X	Disposition data are not collected		18
KANSAS:						
District Court	G		X		X	18 14 (for traffic violation) 16 (for fish and game or charged with felony with two prior juvenile adjudications, which would be considered a felony)
KENTUCKY:						
District Court	L		X	X		18
LOUISIANA:						
District Court	G		X	X		17
Family Court and Juvenile Court	G		X	X		15 (for first and second degree murder, manslaughter, and aggravated rape)
City Court	L		X	X		16 (for armed robbery, aggravated burglary, and aggravated kidnapping)
MAINE:						
District Court	L		X		X	18

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile unit of count used in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Juris-diction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
MARYLAND:						
Circuit Court	G		X		X	18
District Court	L		X		X	18
MASSACHUSETTS:						
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:	G					
District Court Dept.			X	X		17
Juvenile Court Dept.			X	X		17
MICHIGAN:						
Probate Court	L		X		X	17
MINNESOTA:						
District Court	G		X	X		18
MISSISSIPPI			(Data are unavailable)			
MISSOURI:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		17
MONTANA:						
District Court	G		X		X	18
NEBRASKA:						
Separate Juvenile Court	L		X		X	18
County Court	L		X		X	18
NEVADA:						
District Court	G		X		X	18
NEW HAMPSHIRE:						
District Court	L		X		X	18 16 (for traffic violation) 15 (for some felony charges)
NEW JERSEY:						
Superior Court	G		X		X	18
NEW MEXICO:						
District Court	G		X	X		18
NEW YORK:						
Family Court	L		X		X	16 13 (for murder and kidnapping)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile unit of count used in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
		At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	
NORTH CAROLINA:						
District Court	L		X	X		16
NORTH DAKOTA:						
District Court	G		X		X	18
OHIO:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X (warrant)			X	18
OKLAHOMA:						
District Court	G		X (case number)	X		18
OREGON:						
Circuit Court	G		X	(Dispositions are not counted)		18
County Court	L		X			18
PENNSYLVANIA:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X		X		18
PUERTO RICO:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
RHODE ISLAND:						
Family Court	L	X		X		18
SOUTH CAROLINA:						
Family Court	L		X	X		17
SOUTH DAKOTA:						
Circuit Court	G	X		X		18
TENNESSEE:						
General Sessions Court	L	X			X	18
Juvenile Court	L	X			X	18
TEXAS:						
District Court	G		X		X	17
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, Probate Court	L		X		X	17
UTAH:						
Juvenile Court	L		X		X	18

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile unit of count used in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
VERMONT: District Court	G		X		X	16
VIRGINIA: District Court	L		X		X	18
WASHINGTON: Superior Court	G		X	X (dependency)	X (delinquency)	18
WEST VIRGINIA: Circuit Court	G		X		X	18
WISCONSIN: Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
WYOMING: District Court	G		X	X		19

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.
X = This court has jurisdiction in this casetype.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1986 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction, 1986

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Adminis-trative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
ALABAMA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	District, Probate, and Municipal Courts
ALASKA:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	0	de novo	
		0	X	X	on the record	District Court
ARIZONA:						
Superior Court	G	0	X	X	de novo on the record	Justices of the Peace and Municipal Courts
ARKANSAS:						
Circuit Court	G	0	X	X	de novo	Court of Common Pleas, County, Municipal, City and Police Courts
CALIFORNIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Justice and Municipal Courts
COLORADO:						
District Court	G	X	X	0	on the record	County and Municipal Court of Record
		0	0	X	de novo	County and Municipal Court of Record
County Court	L	0	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court Not of Record
CONNECTICUT:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
DELAWARE:						
Superior Court	G	0	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court of Wilmington, Alderman's, and Justice of Peace Courts
		X	X	X	on the record	Superior Court and Court of Common Pleas
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	Merit Protection Board, Administrative Traffic Agency
FLORIDA.						
Circuit Court	G	0	X	0	de novo on the record	County Court
		X	0	X	on the record	County Court

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Adminis-trative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
GEORGIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	0	de novo or on the record (varies by county)	Probate and Magistrate Courts
		0	0	X	de novo or on the record (Probate varies)	Probate and Municipal Courts
HAWAII:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	de novo	
IDAHO:						
District Court	G	X	X (small claims only)	X	de novo	Magistrates Division
		0	X	0	on the record	Magistrates Division
ILLINOIS:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
INDIANA:						
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	City and Town Courts
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	0	X	0	de novo	Small Claims Court of Marion County
IOWA:						
District Court	G	X	0	0	de novo	
		0	X	0	on the record	Magistrates
		0	0	X	de novo on the record	Magistrates
KANSAS:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court
KENTUCKY:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	District Court
LOUISIANA:						
District Court	G	0	X	X	de novo on the record	City and Parish, Justice of the Peace, and Mayor's Courts
MAINE:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	District and Administrative Courts

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Adminis-trative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
MARYLAND:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	District Court
MASSACHUSETTS:						
Superior Court Department	G	X	X	X	on the record	Other departments
District Court Department and Boston Municipal Court	G	0	0	X	de novo	Other departments
MICHIGAN:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court
		0	X	0	on the record	District, Municipal Courts, and Probate Courts
MINNESOTA:						
District Court	G	0	X	X	de novo	County Court
MISSISSIPPI:			(DATA ARE UNAVAILABLE)			
MISSOURI:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		X	X	0	de novo	Municipal and Associate Divisions
MONTANA:						
District Court	G	X	X	0	de novo and on the record	Justice of Peace, Municipal and City Courts
		0	0	X	de novo	
NEBRASKA:						
District Court	G	X	0	0	de novo on the record	
		0	X	X	on the record	County Court
NEVADA:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Justice and Municipal Courts
		0	0	X	de novo	Municipal Court on the record
NEW HAMPSHIRE:						
Superior Court	G	0	0	X	de novo	District and Municipal Courts

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals Civil	Trial Court Appeals Criminal	Type of appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
NEW JERSEY:						
Superior Court	G	0	0	X	de novo on the record	Municipal Court
NEW MEXICO:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	Magistrate, Probate, Municipal, and Bernalillo County Metropolitan Courts
NEW YORK:						
County Court	G	0	X	X	on the record	City, Town, and Village Justice Court
NORTH CAROLINA:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	X	de novo	District Court
		X	0	0	de novo on the record	
		X	0	0	on the record	
NORTH DAKOTA:						
District Court	G	X	0	0	Varies	
		0	X	X	de novo	Limited Jurisdiction Courts
OHIO:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	0	0	de novo and on the record	
County Court	L	0	0	X	de novo	Mayor's Court
Municipal Court	L	0	0	X	de novo	Mayor's Court
Court of Claims	L	X	0	0	de novo	
OKLAHOMA:						
District Court	G	X	0	X	de novo on the record	Municipal Court Not of Record
Court of Tax Review	L	X	0	0	de novo on the record	
OREGON:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	0	on the record	County, Justice, and Municipal Courts
Tax Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
PENNSYLVANIA:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	X	0	on the record	District Justice
		0	0	X	de novo	District Justice

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
PUERTO RICO:						
Superior Court	G	0	X	X	--	District Court
RHODE ISLAND:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	District, Municipal, and Probate Courts
District Court	L	X	0	0	on the record	
SOUTH CAROLINA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Magistrate, Probate and Municipal Courts
SOUTH DAKOTA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	de novo and on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	Magistrates Division
TENNESSEE:						
Circuit, Chancery and Criminal Courts	G	X	X	X	de novo	General Sessions, Probate, Municipal and Juvenile Courts
TEXAS:						
District Court	G	X	0	0	de novo and de novo on the record	
County-Level Courts	L	0	X	X	de novo	Municipal and Justice of the Peace Courts
UTAH:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	Limited Jurisdiction Courts
		0	X	X	de novo	Justice of the Peace Court
VERMONT:						
Superior Court	G	0	X	0	de novo on the record	District Court and Probate Court

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1986. (continued)

			Trial Court Appeals			
State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Adminis-trative Agency Appeals	Civil	Criminal	Type of appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
VIRGINIA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	District Court
District Court	L	X	0	0	de novo	District Court
WASHINGTON:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	District and Municipal Courts
WEST VIRGINIA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	Magistrate Court
WISCONSIN:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	X (first offense DWI/DUI only	de novo	Municipal Court
		0	X	X (first offense DWI/DUI only	on the record	Municipal Court
WYOMING:						
District Court	G	0	X	X	de novo on the record	Limited Jurisdiction Courts

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.
-- = Information not available.

Definitions of types of appeal:

de novo:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court which results in a totally new set of proceedings, in order to reach a new trial court judgment.
de novo on the record:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court which is based on the record, in order to reach a new trial court judgment.
on the record:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court in which procedural challenges to the original trial proceedings are claimed, and an evaluation of those challenges are made--there is not a new trial court judgment on the case.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1986 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE G: Number of Judges/Justices in the State Courts, 1986

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)	General jurisdiction court(s)	Limited jurisdiction court(s)
Alabama	9	8	124	807 (includes 416 mayors)
Alaska	5	3	29	70 (includes 54 magistrates)
Arizona	5	18	98	261 (includes 85 justices of the peace, 58 part-time judges)
Arkansas	7	6	70	329 (includes 61 juvenile referees)
California	7	77	817 (includes 102 commissioners or referees)	751 (includes 121 commissioners or referees)
Colorado	7	10	118	341
Connecticut	6	6	149 (includes the 12 appellate justices/judges	131
Delaware	5	--	17	88 (includes 53 justices of the peace, 1 chief magistrate, 13 aldermen, 1 part-time judge)
District of Columbia	9	--	51	--
Florida	7	46	356	219
Georgia	7	9	178 (includes 40 part-time judges)	1,071 (includes 48 part-time judges, 159 chief magistrates, 273 magistrates)
Hawaii	5	3	32 (includes 8 District Court judges)	64 (includes 42 per diem judges)
Idaho	5	3	105 (includes 64 lawyer and 8 non-lawyer magistrates)	--
Illinois	7	42 (includes 8 supplemental judges)	775	--
Indiana	5	13	198	125
Iowa	9	6	324 (includes 168 part-time magistrates)	--
Kansas	7	10	210 (includes 70 district magistrate judges)	305
Kentucky	7	14	91	123
Louisiana	7	48	192	755 (includes 384 justices of the peace, 300 mayors)
Maine	7	--	16	41 (includes 16 part-time judges)
Maryland	7	13	109	156
Massachusetts	7	10	281	--
Michigan	7	18	168	360
Minnesota	7	12	220*	--*
Mississippi	9	--	79	381 (includes 85 mayors, 191 justices of the peace)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE G: Number of judges/justices in the state courts, 1986. (continued)

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)	General jurisdiction court(s)	Limited jurisdiction court(s)
Missouri	7	32	303	348
Montana	7	--	41	133
Nebraska	7	--	48	67
Nevada	5	--	35	71 (includes 59 justices of the peace)
New Hampshire	5	--	22	99 (includes 40 part-time judges and 37 special judges)
New Jersey	7	28	355	368 (includes 348 part-time judges)
New Mexico	5	7	56	193
New York	7	62	484	2,690 (includes 76 surrogates, 1,985 justices of the peace)
North Carolina	7	12	172 (includes 100 clerks who hear uncontested probate)	777 (includes 631 magistrates of which 100 are part-time)
North Dakota	5	--	26	176
Ohio	7	53	330	951 (includes 690 mayors)
Oklahoma	12	12	206	379 (includes unknown number of part-time judges)
Oregon	7	10	86	252 (includes 37 justices of the peace)
Pennsylvania	7	24	313	580 (includes 546 justices of the peace and 6 magistrates)
Puerto Rico	8	--	92	163 (includes 10 special judges)
Rhode Island	5	--	19	63 (data are incomplete)
South Carolina	5	6	51 (includes 20 masters-in-equity)	669 (includes 317 magistrates)
South Dakota	5	--	197 (includes 11 part-time lay magistrates, 18 law magistrates, 84 full-time magistrate/clerks, 49 part-time lay magistrate/clerks)	--
Tennessee	5	21	128 (includes 32 chancellors)	331 (includes 38 part-time judges, and 2 justices of the peace
Texas	18	80	374	2,475 (includes 954 justices of the peace)
Utah	5	--	29	205 (includes 156 justices of the peace)
Vermont	5	--	24	19
Virginia	7	10	122	174

(continued on next page)

FIGURE G: Number of judges/justices in the state courts, 1986. (continued)

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)	General jurisdiction court(s)	Limited jurisdiction court(s)
Washington	9	16	129	194 (includes 169 attorneys and 25 non-attorneys of which 107 are part-time)
West Virginia	5	--	60	209 (includes 155 magistrates)
Wisconsin	7	13	197	205
Wyoming	5	--	17	110 (includes 14 justices of the peace)
Total	354	761	8,723	18,279

-- = The state does not have a court at the indicated level.

NOTE: This table identifies, in parentheses, all individuals who hear cases but are not titled judges/justices. Some states may have given the title "judge" to officials who are called magistrates, justices of the peace, etc., in other states.

*Minnesota--General Jurisdiction and Limited Jurisdiction Courts were consolidated in 1987.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1986 State Trial and Appellate Court statistical profiles.

FIGURE H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts, 1986

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
ALABAMA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
District Court	L	Reopened		No	Yes/No
ALASKA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes
District Court	L	Reopened		No	No
ARIZONA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	When transferred in	No	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Reopened	When transferred in	No	Yes/No
ARKANSAS:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Chancery and Probate Court	G	Reopened		No	No
CALIFORNIA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	Retried cases	No	No
Municipal Court	L	Reopened	Retried cases	No	N/A
Justice Court	L	Reopened	Retried cases	No	N/A
COLORADO:					
District Court	G	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
Water Court	G	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
Denver Superior Court	G	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
County Court	L	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
Municipal Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
CONNECTICUT:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		No	No
DELAWARE:					
Court of Chancery	G	Reopened		No	No
Superior Court	G	New filing Reopened	If remanded Case rehearing	No	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Rarely occurs		No	Yes/No
Family Court	L	New filing is heard separately Reopened - if rehearing of total case	If part of original proceeding	No	No
Court of Common Pleas	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
Alderman's Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	-	No	No
FLORIDA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
County Court	L	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
GEORGIA:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		No	No
Civil Court	L	N/C		No	No
State Court	L	New filing		No	No
Probate Court	L	New filing		No	No
Magistrate Court	L	New filing		No	No
Municipal Court	L	N/C		No	No
HAWAII:					
Circuit Court and Family Court	G	Reopened	Supplemental proceedings	Yes/Yes Special proceedings	Yes/Yes Circuit Court: Special Proceedings
District Court	L	Reopened	Supplemental proceedings	No	Yes/No
IDAHO:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	No
ILLINOIS:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
INDIANA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
County Court	L	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	Reopened	Redocketed	No No	No No
City Court	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
IOWA:					
District Court	G	New filing		Yes/No	No
KANSAS:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
KENTUCKY:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
District Court	L	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
LOUISIANA:					
District Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	Yes/Yes	Yes/No
Juvenile Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	Yes/Yes	No
Family Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	No	No
City & Parish Courts	L	New filing	As action on open case	Yes/No	No
MAINE:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		Yes/No	Yes/No
District Court	L	N/C		No	No
Probate Court	L	N/C		No	No
MARYLAND:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing		No	N/A
District Court	L	N/A		N/A	Yes/No
MASSACHUSETTS:					
Trial Court of the Commonwealth					
Superior Court Dept.	G	N/C		N/Applicable	Yes/Yes
District Court Dept.	G	N/C		Yes/Yes	N/Applicable
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	G	N/C		Yes/Yes	N/Applicable
Housing Court Dept.	G	N/C		Yes/Yes	N/Applicable
Land Court Dept.	G	N/C		N/Applicable	N/Applicable
MICHIGAN:					
Court of Claims	G	Reopened		No	No
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
District Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
Municipal Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
MINNESOTA:					
District Court	G	Identified separately		No	No
MISSISSIPPI:			Data are unavailable		
MISSOURI:					
Circuit Court	G	New filings		Yes/No	Yes/No
MONTANA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
Municipal Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
City Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
NEBRASKA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
County Court	L	Reopened		No	No
NEVADA:		Varies based on local practice			
NEW HAMPSHIRE:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	No
District Court	L	N/C		No	No
Municipal Court	L	N/C		No	No
NEW JERSEY:					
Superior Court: Civil, Family, General Equity, and Criminal Divisions	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	Yes/No (except for domestic violence)
NEW MEXICO:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Magistrate Court	L	Reopened		No	No
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	L	Reopened		No	No
NEW YORK:					
Supreme Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
County Court	L	N/C		No	No
Court of Claims	L	N/C		No	No
Family Court	L	Reopened		Yes/No	No
District Court	L	N/C		No	No
City Court	L	N/C		No	No
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	N/C		No	No
Town & Village Justice Court	L	N/C		No	No
NORTH CAROLINA:					
Superior Court	G	N/C		No	No
District Court	L	N/C		Yes/No	No
NORTH DAKOTA:					
District Court	G	New filing		Yes/Yes (only counted if a hearing was held)	Yes/Yes
County Court	L	New filing		N/Applicable	N/Applicable

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
OHIO:					
Court of Common Pleas	G	Reopened		Yes/No (are counted separately in domestic relations cases)	Yes/No
Municipal Court	L	Reopened		No	No
County Court	L	Reopened		No	No
Court of Claims	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
OKLAHOMA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
OREGON:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
Justice Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
Municipal Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
District Court	L	Reopened		N/A	N/A
PENNSYLVANIA:					
Court of Common Pleas	G	Reopened		No	No
District Justice Court	L	New filing		N/A	N/A
PUERTO RICO:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		Yes/No	N/A
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/No	N/A
RHODE ISLAND:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		N/A	No
District Court	L	Reopened		Yes/Yes	No
Family Court	L	Reopened		Yes/Yes	No
Probate Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
SOUTH CAROLINA:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing		No	No (Permanent injunctions are counted as a new filing)
Family Court	L	New filing		No	No
Magistrate Court	L	New filing		No	No
Probate Court	L	New filing		No	No
SOUTH DAKOTA:					
Circuit Court	G	N/C		No	Yes/No
TENNESSEE:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)
Chancery Court	G	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)
General Sessions Court	L	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
TEXAS:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Constitutional County Court	L	Reopened		No	No
County Court at Law	L	Reopened		No	No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	New filing		No	No
UTAH:					
District Court	G	N/C	(called - abstract of judgment filed)	No	Yes/Yes
Circuit Court	L	N/C		No	Yes/Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	N/C		No	Yes/Yes
VERMONT:					
Superior Court	G	N/C		No	Yes/No
District Court	G	N/C		No	Yes/No
Probate Court	L	N/C		No	N/A
VIRGINIA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	Reinstated cases	Yes/Yes	Yes/No
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/No	No
WASHINGTON:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		No	Yes/No
Municipal Court	L	New filing		N/A	N/A
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/Yes	N/A
WEST VIRGINIA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Magistrate Court	L	New filing		No	No
WISCONSIN:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing	Identified with R suffix, but included in total count	No	Yes/Yes
WYOMING:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Reopened		N/A	N/A
County Court	L	Reopened		N/A	N/A

G	-	General Jurisdiction Court
L	-	Limited Jurisdiction Court
N/A	-	Information is not available
N/C	-	Information is not collected/ counted
N/Applicable	-	Civil casetypes heard by this court are not applicable to this figure.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1986 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE I: Method of Counting Support/Custody Cases in State Trial Courts, 1986

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
ALABAMA:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
District Court	L	N/A	Yes (S/C only)	Reopened cases
ALASKA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
ARIZONA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
ARKANSAS:				
Chancery and Probate Court	G	No	Yes	Reopened cases
CALIFORNIA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	N/C
COLORADO:				
District Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
CONNECTICUT:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
DELAWARE:				
Family Court	L	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
FLORIDA:				
Circuit Court	G	No	Yes	Reopened cases
GEORGIA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are filed separately	Yes	New filings
HAWAII:				
Circuit and Family Court	G	Yes	Yes	N/C

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
IDAHO:				
District Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	New filings
ILLINOIS:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
INDIANA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases (redocketed)
Circuit Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases (redocketed)
IOWA:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are filed separately	Yes	New filings
KANSAS:				
District Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	N/C
KENTUCKY:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
LOUISIANA:				
District Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
Juvenile Court	G	No	Yes	Reopened cases
Family Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
MAINE:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are filed separately	Yes	N/C
District Court	L	Yes, except URESA cases, which are filed separately	Yes	N/C
MARYLAND:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	New filings
MASSACHUSETTS:				
Trial Court of the Commonwealth Probate and Family Court Department	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	No	Reopened cases (Modifications)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
MICHIGAN:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes	Yes	N/C
MINNESOTA:				
District Court	G L	Yes, except URESA cases, which are filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
County Court		Yes, except URESA cases, which are filed separately		Reopened cases
MISSISSIPPI:		Data are unavailable		
MISSOURI:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, except petitions for separate maintenance, URESA cases, motions to modify and motions for contempt involving support and custody decrees on habeas corpus actions, which are filed separately from marriage dissolution cases	Yes	New Filings
MONTANA:				
District Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
NEBRASKA:				
District Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
NEVADA:		Data are unavailable		
NEW HAMPSHIRE:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
NEW JERSEY:				
Superior Court: Civil, Family, General Equity and Criminal Divisions	G	Yes, unless S/C is brought after original proceeding	Yes	Reopened cases
NEW MEXICO:				
District Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
NEW YORK:				
Supreme Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
Family Court	L	No (support/custody jurisdiction only)	N/Applicable	Reopened cases (heard in Supreme Court only)
NORTH CAROLINA:				
District Court	L	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
NORTH DAKOTA:				
District Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	New filings
OHIO:				
Court of Common Pleas	G	Yes	Yes	New filings
OKLAHOMA:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are filed separately	Yes	New filings
OREGON:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	N/C
PENNSYLVANIA:				
Court of Common Pleas	G	No	Yes	New filings
PUERTO RICO:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
RHODE ISLAND:				
Family Court	L	Yes	No	Reopened cases
SOUTH CAROLINA:				
Family Court	L	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	New filings (Not counted)
SOUTH DAKOTA:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes	Yes	N/C

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1986. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
TENNESSEE:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is brought after original proceeding	Yes	Reopened cases
Chancery Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is brought after original proceeding	Yes	Reopened cases
General Sessions Court	L	Yes, unless S/C is brought after original proceeding	Yes	Reopened cases
TEXAS:				
District Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is filed separately	Yes	Reopened cases
UTAH:				
District Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
VERMONT:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	N/C
District Court	G	No	Yes	N/C
VIRGINIA:				
Circuit Court	G	Varies*	Yes	Reopened cases (cases commenced)
District Court	L	No	Yes	Reopened cases (reinstated cases)
WASHINGTON:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, unless paternity, which is counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
WEST VIRGINIA:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is an out-of-state issue	Yes	Reopened cases
WISCONSIN:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is brought after original proceeding	Yes	Reopened cases (new action to modify jurisdiction)
WYOMING:				
District Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1986.

S/C	- Support/Custody
N/A	- Information is not available
N/C	- Information is not collected/counted
N/Applicable	- Civil casetypes heard by this court are not applicable to this figure.
URESA	- Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act

*FOOTNOTES:

Virginia--If a custody/support issue is considered at the same time as the divorce action, it is counted as one divorce case. Sometimes custody/support issues are referred to the juvenile and domestic relations court where they are counted as new cases. Sometimes custody/support issues arise after the final decree in a divorce case is entered. When this happens, the custody/support issue is counted as a reinstatement of an "other equity" case. A reinstatement is counted as a case commenced.

Appendices

Appendix A

Methodology

Methodology

Court Statistics and Information Management Project: Organization and Goals

The State Court Caseload Statistics (Report) series is a cooperative effort of the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). Financial support, project management, and project staffing responsibility are assumed by the CSIM Project, formerly called the National Court Statistics Project (NCSP) of the NCSC. COSCA, through its Court Statistics and Information Systems Committee (CSIS), provides policy guidance and review for the Project. The CSIS Committee is composed of representatives from COSCA, COSCA's staff, the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks, the National Association for Court Management, and a representative from the academic research community.

The two primary goals of the Court Statistics and Information Management (CSIM) Project are to (1) collect, compile, analyze, and disseminate comparable state court caseload statistics; and (2) help states improve the quality of the data they collect and report. The *State Court Caseload Statistics* series responds directly to the first goal by compiling all available state court caseload data from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Evolution of the CSIM Project

During compilation of the *State of the Art* and the *1975 State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report* (the CSIM Project's original research efforts), classification problems arose from the multitude of terms used by the states to report their caseloads.[1] This suggested the need for a model annual report and a statistical dictionary of terms for court usage.

The *State Court Model Annual Report* outlines the basic management data that should, at a minimum, be included in state court annual reports.[2] The *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*, published in 1980, and a 1984 *Supplement* provide common terminology, definitions, and usage for reporting civil, criminal, traffic, juvenile, and appellate caseload inventory. Terms for use in reporting manner of disposition data are provided in the dictionary and in other Project publications.[3] The classification structure and definitions serve as models of preferred terminology for purposes of developing comparable data. A consolidated and revised edition of *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*, which incorporates many new appellate court reporting categories, will be completed in 1988.

Another publication by which the CSIM Project seeks to enhance the usefulness of court statistics is the *Court Case Management Information Systems Manual*, which was produced jointly by the National Court Statistics Project (now CSIM) and the State Judicial Information Systems Project.[4] This manual provides a methodology for building court information systems that provide the data needed for both daily court operations and long-term case management, resource allocation, and strategic planning.

The process of assessing the comparability of caseload data focused on the subject matter jurisdiction and methods of counting cases in state courts. This effort was undertaken in two stages. The first stage focused on problems related to the counting and categorizing of cases in the trial courts and resulted in the *1984 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting*.[5] Information from this jurisdiction guide was incorporated into the caseload database for 1981.

The second stage involved preparation of the *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting*, which was used in conjunction with the 1984 appellate court database.[6] The introduction to the 1981 *Report* contained a complete description of the impact of the *Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide* on the CSIM data collection effort and the introduction of the 1984 *Report* provided a complete description of the impact of the *Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide*.

The first *Report* (1975) presented available caseload data for state appellate courts, trial courts of general jurisdiction, and for selected categories (juvenile, domestic relations, probate, and mental health) in limited jurisdiction courts. The second *Report* (1976) again presented available data for appellate courts and courts of general jurisdiction and also included all available caseload data for all limited jurisdiction courts. The 1979 and 1980 *Reports* eliminated repetitiveness in the summary tables and reorganized the data in the summary tables based on completeness and comparability. The 1981 volume, incorporating the structure detailed in the *Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide*, organized the caseload data by comparable jurisdictions. The 1982 and 1983 reports were postponed to make the series current with the publication of the 1984 volume.

---

[1] National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Caseload Statistics: The State of the Art* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978).

[2] National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Model Annual Report* (Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1980).

[3] National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1980); *Supplement* (Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1984).

[4] Clifford and Jensen, *Court Case Management Information Systems Manual* (Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1983).

[5] Clifford and Roper, *Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting* (Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1985).

[6] Roper, *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting* (Williamsburg, VA: National Center for State Courts, 1985).

In addition to preparing publications, the CSIM Project responds to about 500 requests for information each year. These requests can be grouped into three basic categories: requests for raw data, requests for information on data collection and reporting processes, and requests that involve statistical analysis. The requests come from a variety of sources, including state administrative offices of the courts, local courts, individual justices and judges, federal agencies, legislators, the media, academic researchers, and NCSC staff. The composition of the flow of requests for information influences the topics emphasized in the caseload statistics reports.

Sources of Data

Information for national caseload databases comes from published and unpublished sources supplied by state court administrators and appellate court clerks. The published data are usually found in official state annual reports. State annual reports assume a variety of forms and vary widely in their subject matter and detail. The volumes represent the most reliable and valid data available at the aggregate state level. The data, however, are the product of statistical reports from numerous local jurisdictions and, in many states, several trial court systems. The caseload statistics are used by the states to manage their own systems and are not prepared specifically for presentation in the NCSC caseload statistics series.

A dozen states either do not publish an annual report or publish only limited caseload statistics for either trial or appellate courts. The CSIM Project receives unpublished data from those states in a wide range of forms, including internal management memos, computer-generated output, and the CSIM Project's statistical and jurisdictional profiles updated manually by state-level staff.

Additional relevant information is secured from appropriate personnel in each state. Telephone contact and follow-up correspondence are used to collect missing data, confirm the accuracy of available data, and determine the legal jurisdiction of each court. Information is collected concerning the number of judges per court or court system (from annual reports, offices of state court administrators, and appellate court clerks); the state population (based on Bureau of the Census 1986 revised estimates)[7]; and special characteristics regarding subject matter jurisdiction and court structure.

The data collection strategy for unpublished data by and large duplicates that for the published data. Unpublished data are subjected to the same screening procedures. Appendix B lists the source of each state's caseload statistics for 1986.

Data Collection Procedures

The following outline summarizes the major tasks involved in collecting the 1986 caseload data reported in this volume:

a. Project staff used a copy of each state's 1985 trial and appellate court statistical profile(s), trial and appellate court jurisdiction guide profile(s), and the state court organization chart as worksheets for gathering the 1986 data. Use of the previous year's profiles provided the data collector with a reference point that was used to trace the logic behind the organization of the profiles and charts. Prototypes of the appellate and trial court statistical profiles can be found in Appendix C.

b. The 1986 state published reports were evaluated to note changes in the terminology used to report the data, changes in the range of available data, and changes in the state's court organization or jurisdiction. This process involved a direct comparison of the 1986 material with the 1985 individual state annual reports. The specific location of the 1985 number was noted so that a direct link could be traced to the comparable 1986 number. In addition, the CSIM Project maintained state files that included research notes or other state publications that described changes in the state court systems.

c. Project staff were alert for significant changes from a previous year. A formal record that documented and, where possible, explained such changes was maintained. This process served as another reliability check by catching erroneously reported information, and it forced staff to identify the possible impact certain organizational, structural, or procedural changes had on court caseloads.

d. During the data collection process, a check was conducted to ensure compatibility between the information supplied on the jurisdiction guide profiles and the casetypes identified on the statistical profiles.

e. The data were then transferred from the handwritten copy to computer databases (codebooks are available upon request). The data entry program used (SPSS's Data Entry) automatically checked for certain data entry errors common in keypunching. The software allows the programmer to establish a range of acceptable values for each variable. If a value was entered that fell outside the parameters, SPSS would not incorporate the number within the database until several attempts were made to enter the value. After the data were key entered, a batch error-detection program checked for other user-specified logic violations, mostly mathematical checks on the consistency of subtotals and totals. A final manual edit of the original, handwritten data instrument and the data entry printout was conducted.

f. Finally, the caseload statistics in the body of this report were generated from the database whenever possible.

---

[7] U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Local Population Estimates* Series P-26, No., 86-A (Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, August, 1987).

Variables

There are four basic types of data elements collected by the CSIM Project: trial court caseload statistics, trial court jurisdictional/organizational information, appellate court caseload statistics, and appellate court jurisdictional/organizational information. An individual court profile is prepared for each of these groups of data elements. These data collection instruments have been approved by COSCA's CSIS Committee and consist of data elements defined in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* (see Appendix C).

The caseload statistics consist of two dimensions: the specific casetypes and the data elements collected for each casetype. The trial court casetypes include four basic groups of cases: civil, criminal, juvenile, and traffic/other violation. Each of these major casetypes can be reduced to a more specific level of cases. For example, the civil category can be divided into tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, domestic relations, etc. In some situations, these casetypes can be fine tuned even further; for example, domestic relations can be broken down into its components of marriage dissolution, support/custody, adoption, etc.

Currently, filings and dispositions are collected for each of these casetypes. Data on pending cases were routinely collected by Project staff until the reporting year 1984, when serious comparability problems were identified. Some courts provided data that included active cases only, while others included active and inactive cases. At that point, COSCA's CSIS Committee recommended against collecting pending caseload data until a study could determine whether the data could be rendered comparable across states.

The trial court jurisdictional profile collects an assortment of information relevant to the organization and jurisdiction of each trial court system. The major goal of this profile is to translate the terms reported by the states into the generic terms reported in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. In addition, the profile collects information on the numbers of courts and judges, units of count, the availability of jury trials, the dollar amount jurisdiction, and various types of disposition information.

There is also a statistical profile and jurisdiction guide profile for each state appellate court. The statistical profile identifies at least two major casetypes handled by the state appellate courts: mandatory cases (those cases that the court must hear on the merits—appeals of right) and discretionary petitions (those cases over which the court has discretion to review on the merits). The statistical profiles attempt to identify the numbers of those discretionary petitions that are granted (although few states report those data). Each of those major categories is further identified by whether the case is a review of a final trial court judgment or some other matter (e.g., interlocutory or post-conviction relief). These general areas are subdivided by substantive casetypes (such as, civil, criminal, and juvenile).

As with the trial court jurisdiction guide, the primary task of the appellate court guide is to translate the terms used by the states to report their data into the generic terms used to develop a comparable national database. This guide collects an assortment of information, such as the number of courts, justices/judges, and legal-support personnel; the point at which an appellate case is counted as a case; the procedures used to review discretionary petitions; and the use of panels.

Mapping as a Method of Displaying Caseloads

Since 1985, the state court caseload statistics reports have used maps to illustrate and summarize the data presented in table form. The shading on these maps is designed to darken as the values listed in the legends increase.

The legend on a map indicates where categorical breaks occur in the data distribution. Unless otherwise noted, a nonshaded state indicates that the state did not report data in a form that could be used in the *Report*—it should not be interpreted to mean the state failed to collect and report any data, only that, for one reason or another, the data reported could not be used on the map. Where there are several reasons why data for a state might not be included in a map, symbols are used to make the distinction.

Footnotes

Footnotes show the extent to which a court's statistics conform to the CSIM reporting categories. The most common reasons for nonconformity are incomplete or overinclusive data. An incomplete data element can result from several courts not reporting any data or from the state using a classification scheme that does not fit the definition approved by COSCA's CSIS Committee for the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. This may result in, for example, a situation where a state reports its adoption data in its juvenile category rather than with its civil (domestic relations) group. Given the efforts of this Project to develop a set of comparable data, the civil data element described in the latter situation would be qualified with an incomplete footnote since its adoption data are reported elsewhere. Similarly, since the COSCA CSIS classification scheme considers adoptions as part of domestic relations cases (i.e. civil), and the state described in the latter situation reports its adoptions with its juvenile data, that state's juvenile data would be qualified with a footnote describing the juvenile data element as overinclusive because it includes casetypes other than those defined for that term in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.

Other explanations of differences in filing rates may be found in the different units of count used by states, different subject matter and dollar amount jurisdictions, and different court system structures. Most of these differences are described in the Figures found in Part V of this volume.

The footnotes do not cover all of the features that affect comparability across all of the states. For example, different definitions of a felony exist—what may be a misdemeanor in one state may be a felony in another. More importantly, in terms of influence on the total number of filings, what may be an ordinance violation in one state may be classified as a misdemeanor in another.

Variations in Reporting Periods

As indicated on profile headings and in Figure A, most states report data by calendar year, some by fiscal year, and a few appellate court courts report data by court term. Therefore, the time spans covered in this report are not always directly comparable.

Although data included in this *Report* cover reporting periods of approximately uniform length, the starting and ending dates for the reporting periods vary both within and among states. Differences in reporting periods have little effect on cumulative data elements, such as filings and dispositions, since, regardless of when the reporting period began and ended, the data cover 12 months. Pending data will be greatly affected, however, since they represent a "snapshot" in time and can vary greatly depending on when that snapshot was taken.

The 1986 *Report* reflects court organization and jurisdiction in 1986. Since 1975, new courts have been created at both the appellate and trial level, new courts report data to the CSIM Project, courts may have merged, and courts may have changed counting or reporting methods. The dollar amount limits of civil jurisdiction in many trial courts also vary. Therefore, caution is required when comparing the 1986 data to previous years'.

Conclusion

Finally, comments, corrections, and suggestions by readers are a vital part of the work of the CSIM Project and should be sent to the Director, Court Statistics and Information Management Project, National Center for State Courts, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, Virginia, 23187-8798.

Appendix B

Sources of 1986 State Court Caseload Statistics

Sources of 1986 State Court Caseload Statistics*

ALABAMA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of Courts.

ALASKA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *Alaska Court System, 1986 Annual Report* (Anchorage, Alaska: 1987).

ARIZONA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Arizona Courts, 1986 Judicial Report* (Phoenix, Arizona: 1987).

ARKANSAS:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Secretary of the Judicial Department, *Annual Report of the Judiciary of Arkansas, FY 85-86* (Little Rock, Arkansas: 1987).

CALIFORNIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Judicial Council of California, *1987 Annual Report, Judicial Council of California* (San Francisco, California: 1987).

COLORADO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the Colorado Judiciary 1985-86* (Denver, Colorado: 1986).

CONNECTICUT:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: *Biennial Report of the Connecticut Judicial Department, 1984-86* (Hartford, Connecticut: 1987).

DELAWARE:

COLR, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *1986 Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary* (Wilmington, Delaware: 1986). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

COLR, GJC: Executive Officer of the Courts, *1986 Annual Report, District of Columbia Courts* (Washington, D.C.: 1986). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Executive Officer.

* COLR = Court of last resort.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.
LJC = Limited jurisdiction court.
GJC = General jurisdiction court.

FLORIDA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the State Courts Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Courts Administrator.

GEORGIA:

COLR: The Judicial Council of Georgia and the Administrative Director of the Courts, *Thirteenth Report on the Work of the Georgia Courts* (Atlanta, Georgia: 1987). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

GJC, LJC: The Judicial Council of Georgia and the Administrative Director of the Courts, *Thirteenth Report on the Work of the Georgia Courts* (Atlanta, Georgia: 1987).

HAWAII:

COLR, IAC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Judiciary, State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1985-86* and *Statistical Supplement, July 1, 1985 to June 30, 1986* (Honolulu, Hawaii: 1986).

GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Judiciary, State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1985-86* (Honolulu, Hawaii: 1986). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

IDAHO:

COLR, IAC, GJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Idaho Courts 1986 Annual Report Appendix* (Boise, Idaho: 1987).

ILLINOIS:

COLR, IAC, GJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

INDIANA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Director of the Division of State Court Administration, *1986 Indiana Judicial Report* (Indianapolis, Indiana: 1987).

IOWA:

COLR: State Court Administrator, *1986 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1987). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: State Court Administrator, *1986 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1987). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

GJC: State Court Administrator, *1986 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1987).

KANSAS:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Judicial Administrator, *Annual Report of the Courts of Kansas: 1985-1986 Fiscal Year* (Topeka, Kansas: 1986).

KENTUCKY:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *Annual Report, Kentucky Court of Justice 1985-86* (Frankfort, Kentucky: 1987).

LOUISIANA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Judicial Administrator, *1986 Annual Report of the Judicial Council of the Supreme Court of Louisiana* (New Orleans, Louisiana: 1987).

MAINE:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *State of Maine Judicial Department 1986 Annual Report*, (Portland, Maine: 1987).

MARYLAND:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the Maryland Judiciary 1985-86* (Annapolis, Maryland: 1986).

MASSACHUSETTS:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Appeals Court.

GJC: Chief Administrative Justice, *Annual Report of the Massachusetts Trial Court, 1986* (Boston, Massachusetts: 1987).

MICHIGAN:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *1986 Annual Report of the State Court Administrator* and *Statistical Supplement* (Lansing, Michigan: 1987).

MINNESOTA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Minnesota State Court Report 1985-1986* (St. Paul, Minnesota: 1987).

MISSISSIPPI:

COLR: Staff Attorney, *Mississippi Supreme Court Annual Report 1986* (Jackson, Mississippi: 1987).

GJC, LJC: No data were available for cases handled by these courts in 1986.

MISSOURI:

COLR, IAC, GJC: State Courts Administrator, *Missouri Judicial Report Fiscal Year 1986* (Jefferson City, Missouri: 1986).

MONTANA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Administrator of the Supreme Court.

GJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

LJC: No data were available for cases handled by these courts in fiscal year 1986.

NEBRASKA:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Nebraska Supreme Court 1986 Annual Report* (Lincoln, Nebraska: 1986).

NEVADA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: No data were available for cases handled by these courts in 1986.

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Director, Administrative Office of the Courts.

NEW JERSEY:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director, Administrative Office of the Courts.

NEW MEXICO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director, *Judicial Department, State of New Mexico, Annual Report July 1, 1985-June 30, 1986* (Santa Fe, New Mexico: 1986).

NEW YORK:

COLR, IAC: Clerk of the Court, *1986 Annual Report of the Clerk of the Court, Court of Appeals of the State of New York* (New York: 1987). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerks of the Appellate Division and Appellate Terms of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Chief Administrator of the Courts, *Ninth Annual Report 1987* (New York: 1987).

NORTH CAROLINA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director, Administrative Office of the Courts, *North Carolina Courts, 1985-86* (Raleigh, North Carolina: 1986).

NORTH DAKOTA:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the North Dakota Judicial System, 1986* (Bismarck, North Dakota: 1987).

OHIO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Supreme Court, *Ohio Courts Summary 1986* (Columbus, Ohio: 1987).

OKLAHOMA:

COLR: Administrative Director of the Courts, *State of Oklahoma, The Judiciary: Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1986* (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: 1987). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *State of Oklahoma, The Judiciary: Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1986* and *Statistical Appendix* (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: 1987).

OREGON:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

PENNSYLVANIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Administrator.

PUERTO RICO:

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

RHODE ISLAND:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

SOUTH CAROLINA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Director of the Judicial Department, *South Carolina Judicial Department, Annual Report, 1986* (Columbia, South Carolina: 1987).

SOUTH DAKOTA:

COLR, GJC: State Court Administrator, *Benchmark 1986: Annual Report of the South Dakota Unified Judicial System* (Pierre, South Dakota: 1987).

TENNESSEE:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Tennessee, *1986 Annual Report* (Nashville, Tennessee: 1987).

TEXAS:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *Texas Judicial System Annual Report, September 1, 1985 - August 31, 1986* (Austin, Texas: 1986).

UTAH:

COLR, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

VERMONT:

COLR, GJC, LJC: Court Administrator, *Judicial Statistics for Year Ending June 30, 1986* (Montpelier, Vermont: 1986).

VIRGINIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Secretary, Supreme Court, *Virginia State of the Judiciary Report 1986* (Richmond, Virginia: 1987).

WASHINGTON:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the Courts of Washington, 1986* (Olympia, Washington: 1987).

WEST VIRGINIA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

WISCONSIN:

COLR, IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Director of State Courts.

WYOMING:

COLR, GJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Coordinator.

LJC: No data were available for cases handled in these courts in 1986.

* COLR = Court of last resort.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.
LJC = Limited jurisdiction court.
GJC = General jurisdiction court.

Appendix C

Prototype Statistical Profiles

Prototype of State Appellate Court Statistical Profile

STATE NAME, COURT NAME
Court of last resort or intermediate appellate court
Number of divisions/departments, Number of authorized justices/judges
Time period covered

	Beginning pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending
Cases:				
Mandatory jurisdiction:				
Appeals of final judgments:				
Civil				
Criminal:				
Capital crimes (death/life)				
Other criminal				
Total criminal				
Juvenile				
Administrative agency				
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)				
Total appeals of final judgments				
Other mandatory cases:				
Disciplinary matters:				
Attorney				
Judge				
Total disciplinary				
Original proceedings (e.g., extraordinary writs, postconviction remedy, sentence review only, election cases)				
Interlocutory decisions				
Advisory opinions:				
Intra-state (legislature, executive, courts).				
Federal courts (i.e., certified question)				
Total advisory opinions				
Total other mandatory cases				
Total mandatory jurisdiction cases				
Discretionary jurisdiction:				
Petitions of final judgments:				
Civil		( )	( )	
Criminal		( )	( )	
Juvenile		( )	( )	
Administrative agency		( )	( )	
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)		( )	( )	
Total petitions of final judgments		( )	( )	
Other discretionary petitions:				
Disciplinary matters:				
Attorney		( )	( )	
Judge		( )	( )	
Total disciplinary		( )	( )	
Original proceedings (e.g., extraordinary writs, postconviction remedy, sentence review only, election cases)		( )	( )	
Interlocutory decisions		( )	( )	
Advisory opinions:				
Intra-state (legislature, executive, courts)		( )	( )	
Federal courts (e.g., certified question)		( )	( )	
Total advisory opinions		( )	( )	
Total other discretionary petitions		( )	( )	
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases		( )	( )	
Grand total cases		( )	( )	
Other proceedings:				
Rehearing/reconsideration requests				
Motions				
Other matters (e.g., bar admissions)				

Prototype of state appellate court statistical profile

Manner of Disposition

	Preargument disposition (dismissed/ withdrawn/ settled)	Opinions		Decision without opinion (memo/ order)	Transferred	Other
		Signed opinion	Per curiam opinion			
Mandatory jurisdiction:						
Appeals of final judgments:						
Civil						
Criminal						
Juvenile						
Administrative agency						
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)						
Other mandatory cases:						
Disciplinary matters						
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)						
Interlocutory decisions						
Total mandatory jurisdiction cases						
Discretionary jurisdiction (cases granted only):						
Petitions of final judgments:						
Civil						
Criminal						
Juvenile						
Administrative agency						
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)						
Other discretionary petitions						
Disciplinary matters						
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)						
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases						
Grand total						

Type of decision in mandatory cases/granted petitions of final judgment

	Civil	Criminal	Juvenile	Administrative Agency	Other Mandatory cases	Total
Opinions:						
Affirmed						
Modified						
Reversed						
Remanded						
Mixed						
Dismissed						
Other						
Decisions without opinion:						
Affirmed						
Modified						
Reversed						
Remanded						
Mixed						
Dismissed						
Other						

Type of decision in other discretionary petitions

	Relief granted	Relief denied	Other
Other discretionary petitions			
Disciplinary matters			
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)			
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases			

Prototype of state appellate court statistical profile

	Time interval data[n] (months/days)											
	Notice of appeal to ready for hearing			Ready for hearing to under advisement (submitted or oral argument completed)			Under advisement (submitted or oral argument completed) to decision			Notice of appeal to decision		
	Number of cases	Mean	Median	Number of cases	Mean	Median	Number of cases	Mean	Median	Number of cases	Mean	Median
Mandatory jurisdiction:												
Appeals of final judgments:												
Civil												
Criminal												
Juvenile												
Administrative agency												
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)												
Other mandatory cases:												
Disciplinary matters												
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases												
Interlocutory decisions												
Total mandatory jurisdiction cases												
Discretionary jurisdiction:												
Petitions of final judgments:												
Civil												
Criminal												
Juvenile												
Administrative agency												
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)												
Other discretionary petitions												
Disciplinary matters												
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)												
Interlocutory decisions												
Advisory opinions												
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases												
Grand total												

Prototype of state appellate court statistical profile

	Age of pending caseload (days)															
	Not ready for hearing															
	Awaiting court reporter's transcript			Awaiting appellant's brief			Awaiting respondent's brief			Ready for hearing			Under advisement (submitted or oral argument completed			
	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	Average age of pending caseload
Mandatory jurisdiction:																
Appeals of final judgments:																
Civil																
Criminal																
Juvenile																
Administrative agency																
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue) ...																
Other mandatory cases:																
Disciplinary matters																
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases) ..																
Interlocutory decisions ...																
Total mandatory jurisdiction cases																
Discretionary jurisdiction:																
Petitions of final judgments:																
Civil																
Criminal																
Juvenile																
Administrative agency																
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue) ...																
Other discretionary petitions																
Disciplinary matters																
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases) ..																
Interlocutory decisions ...																
Advisory opinions																
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases																
Grand total																

Prototype of state appellate court statistical profile

Boldface headings indicate the classifications used by the CSIM Project.
N/A = The casetype is handled by the court, but the data are unavailable.
X = The data for this casetype are known to be included in the total but are unavailable by category.
-- = Data element is not applicable.

( ) NOTE: Begin pending, filed outside the parentheses, disposed outside the parentheses, and end pending figures reported as discretionary jurisdiction cases represent petitions/motions for review. Filed figures inside the parentheses represent those newly filed petitions/motions that were granted review during the time period covered on this profile. For those interested, filed figures inside the parentheses can then be added to total mandatory jurisdiction cases filed to arrive at the number of new cases that the court will ultimately consider "on the merits." Disposed figures inside the parentheses represent the number of discretionary petitions granted review that were disposed of "on the merits." This number is rarely available, and is usually included in either the total discretionary petitions disposed, or the mandatory jurisdiction cases. For those interested, disposed figures inside the parentheses can be added to toal mandatory jurisdiction cases disposed to arrive at the number of cases that the court disposed of "on the merits."

OPINION COUNT:

CASE COUNT:

For the qualifying footnotes below, "d" = double counting and "j" = overinclusive.

A = The data element is complete with no footnotes.

B = The data element is complete with a "d" footnote only.

C = The data element is complete with a "j" footnote and no "d" footnote.

D = The data element is complete with a "j" footnote and a "d" footnote.

---

i (enter as lower case) = The data element is 75% complete, with no "j" or "d" footnotes.

J = The data element is 75% complete, with a "d" footnote, but with no "j" footnote.

P = The data element is 75% complete with a "j" footnote and no "d" footnote.

Q = The data element is 75% complete with a "j" footnote and a "d" footnote.

V = The data element is less than 75% complete with no "j" footnote and no "d" footnote.

W = The data element is less than 75% complete with no "j" footnote and a "d" footnote.

X = The data element is less than 75% complete with a "j" footnote and no "d" footnote.

Y = The data element is less than 75% complete with a "j" footnote and a "d" footnote.

Z = The data are missing for this data element (i.e., the primary data element was coded a "-5" to a "-1").

R = Judge information.

S = Figure was computed.

T = Additional information.

U = The data element is included in the unclassified category.

Prototype of State Trial Court Statistical Profile Used in 1986 Data Collection

STATE NAME, COURT NAME
Court of general jurisdiction or court of limited jurisdiction
Number of circuits or districts, Number of judges
Time period covered

	Beginning pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending
Civil:				
Tort				
Auto tort				
Medical malpractice				
Other professional malpractice				
Product liability tort				
Miscellaneous tort				
Total tort				
Contract				
Real property rights				
Small claims				
Domestic relations:				
Marriage dissolution				
Support/custody				
URESA				
Adoption				
Paternity/bastardy				
Miscellaneous domestic relations				
Total domestic relations				
Estate:				
Probate/wills/intestate				
Guardianship/conservatorship/trusteeship				
Miscellaneous estate				
Total estate				
Mental health				
Appeal:				
Appeal of administrative agency case				
Appeal of trial court case				
Total civil appeals				
Miscellaneous civil				
Total civil				
Criminal:				
Felony				
Triable felony				
Limited felony				
Misdemeanor				
Felony/misdemeanor				
DWI/DUI				
Appeal				
Miscellaneous criminal				
Total criminal				
Traffic/other violation:				
Moving traffic violation				
Ordinance violation				
Parking violation				
Miscellaneous traffic				
Total traffic/other violation				
Juvenile:				
Criminal-type juvenile petition				
Status offense				
Child-victim petition				
Miscellaneous juvenile petition				
Total juvenile				
Grand total cases				
Other proceedings:				
Postconviction remedy				
Preliminary hearings				
Sentence review only				
Extraordinary writs				
Total other proceedings				

Prototype of state trial court statistical profile

Manner of disposition: trials

		Trial	
	Jury	Non-jury	Total
Civil:			
Tort:			
Auto tort			
Medical malpractice			
Other professional malpractice			
Product liability tort			
Miscellaneous tort			
Total tort			
Contract			
Real property rights			
Small claims			
Domestic relations:			
Marriage dissolution			
Support/custody			
URESA			
Adoption			
Paternity/bastardy			
Miscellaneous domestic relations			
Total domestic relations			
Estate:			
Probate/wills/intestate			
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship			
Miscellaneous estate			
Total estate			
Mental health			
Appeal:			
Appeal of administrative agency case			
Appeal of trial court case			
Total civil appeals			
Miscellaneous civil			
Total civil			

		Trial	
	Jury	Non-jury	Total
Criminal:			
Felony:			
Triable felony			
Limited felony			
Misdemeanor			
Felony/misdemeanor			
DWI/DUI			
Appeal			
Miscellaneous criminal			
Total criminal			
Traffic/other violation:			
Moving traffic			
Ordinance violation			
Parking violation			
Miscellaneous traffic			
Total traffic/other violation			
Juvenile:			
Criminal-type juvenile petition			
Status petition			
Child-victim petition			
Miscellaneous juvenile petition			
Total juvenile			
Grand total trials			

Manner of civil dispositions

	Uncontested/ Default	Dismissed	Withdrawn	Settled	Transferred	Arbitration	Total
Civil:							
Tort:							
Auto tort							
Medical malpractice							
Other professional malpractice							
Product liability tort							
Miscellaneous tort							
Total tort							
Contract							
Real property rights							
Small claims							
Domestic relations:							
Marriage dissolution							
Support/custody							
URESA							
Adoption							
Paternity/bastardy							
Miscellaneous domestic relations							
Total domestic relations							
Estate:							
Probate/wills/intestate							
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship							
Miscellaneous estate							
Total estate							
Mental health							
Appeal:							
Appeal of administrative agency case							
Appeal of trial court case							
Total civil appeal							
Miscellaneous civil							
Total civil							

Prototype of state trial court statistical profile

Manner of criminal dispositions and type of decision

	Felony	Misdemeanor	DWI/DUI	Appeal	Miscellaneous criminal	Total
Jury trial:						
Conviction						
Guilty plea						
Acquittal						
Dismissed						
Non-jury trial:						
Conviction						
Guilty plea						
Acquittal						
Dismissed						
Dismissed/nolle prosequi						
Bail forfeiture						
Bound over						
Transferred						
Other						
Total dispositions						

Manner of traffic/other violation dispositions and type of decision

	Moving traffic violation	Ordinance violation	Parking	Miscellaneous traffic/ other violation	Total
Jury trial:					
Conviction					
Acquittal					
Non-jury trial:					
Conviction					
Acquittal					
Guilty plea					
Dismissed/nolle prosequi					
Bail forfeiture					
Parking fines					
Transferred					
Other					
Total					

Age of pending caseload (days)

	0-30 days	31-60 days	61-90 days	91-180 days	181-360 days	361-720 days	Over 720 days	Average age of pending cases
Civil:								
Tort:								
Auto tort								
Medical malpractice								
Other professional malpractice								
Product liability tort								
Miscellaneous tort								
Total tort								
Contract								
Real property rights								
Small claims								
Domestic relations:								
Marriage dissolution								
Support/custody								
URESA								
Adoption								
Paternity/bastardy								
Miscellaneous domestic relations								
Total domestic relations								
Estate:								
Probate/wills/intestate								
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship								
Miscellaneous estate								
Total estate								
Mental health								
Appeal:								
Appeal of administrative agency case								
Appeal of trial court case								
Total appeal								
Miscellaneous civil								
Total civil								

Prototype of state trial court statistical profile

	Age of pending caseload (days)							
	0-30 days	31-60 days	61-90 days	91-180 days	181-360 days	361-720 days	Over 720 days	Average age of pending cases
Criminal:								
Felony								
Triable felony								
Limited felony								
Misdemeanor								
Felony/misdemeanor								
DWI/DUI								
Appeal								
Miscellaneous criminal								
Total criminal								
Traffic/other violation:								
Moving traffic								
Ordinance violation								
Parking violation								
Miscellaneous traffic								
Total traffic/other violation								
Juvenile:								
Criminal-type juvenile petition								
Status petition								
Child-victim petition								
Miscellaneous juvenile petition								
Total juvenile								

Boldface headings indicate the classifications used by the CSIM project.
N/A = This casetype is handled by the court, but the data are unavailable.
X = The data for this casetype are known to be included in the total but are unavailable by category.
-- = Not applicable.

Units of count:
  Civil unit of count.
  Criminal unit of count.
  Traffic/other violation unit of count.
  Juvenile unit of count.

Trial definitions:
  Jury trial definition.
  Non-jury trial definition.

For the qualifying footnotes below, "j" = overinclusive and "nc" = not comparable due to the method of counting support/custody cases.

A = The data element is complete with no footnotes.

B = The data element is complete with an "nc" footnote only.

C = The data element is complete with a "j" footnote that could not be identified in codes E-H below, and no "nc" footnote.

D = The data element is complete with a "j" footnote and an "nc" footnote.

E = The data element is complete with a "j" footnote that indicates the data include all postconviction remedy proceedings only, and no "nc" footnote.

F = The data element is complete with a "j" footnote that indicates the data include all ordinance violation cases only, and no "nc" footnote.

G = The data element is complete with a "j" footnote that indicates the data include all DWI/DUI cases only, and no "nc" footnote.

H = The data element is complete with a "j" footnote that indicates the data include all criminal appeals cases only, and no "nc" footnote.

i (enter as lower case) = the data element is 75% complete, with no "j" or "nc" footnotes, and is missing more information than can be specifically identified in codes K-N below.

J = The data element is 75% complete, with an "nc" footnote, but with no "j" footnote.

K = The data element is 75% complete, with no "j" or "nc" footnotes, and does not include any limited felony cases only.

L = The data element is 75% complete, with no "j" or "nc" footnotes, and does not include any DWI/DUI cases only.

M = The data element is 75% complete, with no "j" or "nc" footnotes, and does not include any criminal appeal cases only.

N = The data element is 75% complete, with no "j" or "nc" footnotes, and does not include any ordinance violation cases only.

O = The data element is 75% complete with a "j" footnote and no "nc" footnote.

P = The data element is 75% complete with a "j" footnote and an "nc" footnote.

V = The data element is less than 75% complete with no "nc" footnote.

W = The data element is less than 75% complete with an "nc" footnote.

X = The data element is less than 75% complete with a "j" footnote and no "nc" footnote.

Y = The data element is less than 75% complete with a "j" footnote and an "nc" footnote.

Q = Additional court information.

R = Judge information.

S = Figure was computed.

T = Additional information; reopened cases are added to the data element.

U = The data element is included in the unclassified category.

Z = The data are missing for this data element (i.e., the primary data element was coded a "-5" to a "-1").

Appendix D

State Populations

Resident Population, 1986

	Population (in thousands)		
State or territory	1986 Juvenile	1986 Adult	1986 Total
Alabama	1,115	2,938	4,053
Alaska	171	362	533
Arizona	911	2,408	3,319
Arkansas	645	1,727	2,372
California	7,109	19,872	26,981
Colorado	866	2,401	3,267
Connecticut	758	2,431	3,189
Delaware	160	473	633
District of Columbia	137	488	625
Florida	2,630	9,045	11,675
Georgia	1,713	4,391	6,104
Hawaii	286	777	1,063
Idaho	311	691	1,002
Illinois	3,058	8,493	11,551
Indiana	1,477	4,026	5,503
Iowa	747	2,103	2,850
Kansas	646	1,814	2,460
Kentucky	1,009	2,720	3,729
Louisiana	1,347	3,155	4,502
Maine	302	871	1,173
Maryland	1,111	3,352	4,463
Massachusetts	1,341	4,491	5,832
Michigan	2,470	6,674	9,144
Minnesota	1,110	3,104	4,214
Mississippi	801	1,824	2,625
Missouri	1,309	3,757	5,066
Montana	231	588	819
Nebraska	427	1,170	1,597
Nevada	240	724	964
New Hampshire	260	767	1,027
New Jersey	1,831	5,789	7,620
New Mexico	444	1,035	1,479
New York	4,375	13,397	17,772
North Carolina	1,624	4,710	6,334
North Dakota	190	489	679
Ohio	2,854	7,899	10,753
Oklahoma	899	2,406	3,305
Oregon	686	2,012	2,698
Pennsylvania	2,850	9,038	11,888
Puerto Rico	N/A	N/A	3,274
Rhode Island	227	748	975
South Carolina	937	2,439	3,376
South Dakota	198	510	708
Tennessee	1,250	3,553	4,803
Texas	4,930	11,755	16,685
Utah	619	1,046	1,665
Vermont	140	401	541
Virginia	1,438	4,349	5,787
Washington	1,156	3,307	4,463
West Virginia	504	1,415	1,919
Wisconsin	1,271	3,514	4,785
Wyoming	154	353	507

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, series P-25, No. 1010, September 1987.

Total State Population for Trend Tables, 1981, 1984, 1985, and 1986

State or territory	Population (in thousands)			
	1981	1984	1985	1986
Alabama	3,917	3,990	4,021	4,053
Alaska	412	500	521	533
Arizona	2,794	3,053	3,187	3,319
Arkansas	2,296	2,349	2,359	2,372
California	24,196	25,622	26,365	26,981
Colorado	2,965	3,178	3,231	3,267
Connecticut	3,134	3,154	3,174	3,189
Delaware	598	613	622	633
District of Columbia	631	623	626	625
Florida	10,183	10,976	11,366	11,675
Georgia	5,574	5,837	5,976	6,104
Hawaii	981	1,039	1,054	1,063
Idaho	959	1,001	1,005	1,002
Illinois	11,462	11,511	11,535	11,551
Indiana	5,468	5,498	5,499	5,503
Iowa	2,899	2,910	2,884	2,850
Kansas	2,383	2,438	2,450	2,460
Kentucky	3,662	2,723	3,726	3,729
Louisiana	4,308	4,462	4,481	4,502
Maine	1,133	1,156	1,164	1,173
Maryland	4,263	4,349	4,392	4,463
Massachusetts	5,773	5,798	5,822	5,832
Michigan	9,204	9,075	9,088	9,144
Minnesota	4,094	4,162	4,193	4,214
Mississippi	2,531	2,598	2,613	2,625
Missouri	4,941	5,008	5,029	5,066
Montana	793	824	826	819
Nebraska	1,577	1,606	1,606	1,597
Nevada	845	911	936	964
New Hampshire	936	977	998	1,027
New Jersey	7,404	7,515	7,562	7,620
New Mexico	1,328	1,424	1,450	1,479
New York	17,602	17,735	17,783	17,772
North Carolina	5,953	6,165	6,255	6,334
North Dakota	658	686	685	679
Ohio	10,781	10,752	10,744	10,753
Oklahoma	3,100	3,298	3,301	3,305
Oregon	2,651	2,674	2,687	2,698
Pennsylvania	11,871	11,901	11,853	11,888
Puerto Rico	3,197	3,267	3,267	3,274
Rhode Island	953	962	968	975
South Carolina	3,167	3,300	3,347	3,376
South Dakota	686	706	708	708
Tennessee	4,612	4,717	4,762	4,803
Texas	14,766	15,989	16,370	16,685
Utah	1,518	1,652	1,645	1,665
Vermont	516	530	535	541
Virginia	5,430	5,636	5,706	5,787
Washington	4,217	4,349	4,409	4,463
West Virginia	1,952	1,952	1,936	1,919
Wisconsin	4,742	4,766	4,775	4,785
Wyoming	492	511	509	507

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, series P-25.

Other Publications from the Court Statistics and Information Management Project

Available from the National Center for State Courts:

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1976-1979
Each of these four volumes (1976-1979) has available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts. 1980-1984, paperback, $12.50 each volume, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1980-1981
The 1981 Report is available free of charge from the Court Statistics and Information Management Project.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1984
Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1986, 276 pages, 25 oz., paperback, $12.50, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1985
Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1987, 312 pages, 28 oz., paperback, $12.50, plus shipping.

Court Case Management Information Systems Manual
This manual reviews local and statewide case management information requirements and presents sets of model data elements, data collection forms and case management output reports for each level of court. 1983, 342 pages, 29 oz., paperback, $15.00, plus shipping.

The Business of State Trial Courts
Defining courts business as cases filed, serious cases, and contested cases, this monograph tests six myths about courts, their work and decisions. 1983, 158 pages, 14 oz., paperback, $10.00, plus shipping.

State Court Organization 1987
Updates the 1980 reference guide to the organization and practices of all state appellate and trial courts. 1988, 420 pages, 43 oz., paperback, $15.00 plus shipping.

The following publications may be ordered from the Court Statistics and Information Management Project, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8798:

State Court Model Annual Report
Suggested formats to be used in preparing state court annual reports. Discusses topics to be considered for inclusion in court reports. 1980, 88 pages. Single copies available free of charge.

1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting
Contains information on the organizations, jurisdiction, and time standards in the state appellate courts. 1985, 117 pages. Single copies available free of charge.

The following publications will soon be available from the National Center for State Courts:

State Court Model Statistical Dictionary
Contains definitions of terms used to classify and count court caseload. Gives the court statistical usage for each term. Merges the 1980 edition and 1984 *Supplement*, defines new terms. Forthcoming, 1988.

Available from the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, Box 6000, Rockville, MD 20850:

State Court Model Statistical Dictionary
Contains definitions of terms used to classify and count court caseload. Gives the court statistical usage for each term. 129 pages. Also ask for the 1984 *Supplement*, 81 pages. Single copies available free of charge.

R 6600-1-U 9/89

State court caseload statistics:

Annual Report 1987

Funding Provided by the
STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE
Grant Number SJI 87-08F-B-020

A joint effort of the Conference of State Court Administrators,
State Justice Institute and National Center for State Courts'
Court Statistics Project

February 1989

Copyright © 1989 by The National Center for State Courts
ISBN 0-89656-091-0
National Center Publication No. R-109

Conference of State Court Administrators
Court Statistics and Technology Committee

Larry P. Polansky, Chairman (1979 to present)
Executive Officer, District of Columbia Courts

William G. Bohn (1982 to present)
State Court Administrator, North Dakota

John A. Clarke (1988 to present)
Trial Court Administrator, Hudson County, New Jersey

Hugh M. Collins (1982 to present)
Judicial Administrator, Louisiana

Sue K. Dosal (1982 to present)
State Court Administrator, Minnesota

Marc Galanter (1986 to present)
Evjue-Bascom Professor of Law, Wisconsin

Jane A. Hess (1987 to present)
State Court Administrator, Missouri

David Lampen (1987 to present)
Clerk of the Appellate Courts, Alaska

Mary Campbell McQueen (1988 to present)
State Court Administrator, Washington

J. Denis Moran (1983 to present)
Director of State Courts, Wisconsin

Jerry Short (1987 to present)
Manager, Court Consultative Services, California

Francis J. Taillefer (1982 to present)
Director of Information Services, North Carolina

National Center for State Courts Board of Directors

Warren E. Burger, Honorary Chairman
Chief Justice of the United States, Retired

Chief Justice Gordon R. Hall, Chairman
Supreme Court of Utah

Chief Justice Harry L. Carrico, Chairman-elect
Supreme Court of Virginia

Arthur H. Snowden II, Vice-Chairman
Administrative Director of the Courts, Alaska

Robert N. Baldwin
State Court Administrator, Virginia

Judith A. Cramer
Court Administrator, Ohio

Don Cullen
District Administrator, Minnesota

Judge Sophia H. Hall
Cook County Circuit Court, Illinois

Judge Harriet P. Henry, Judge at Large
Maine District Court

Judge Charles V. Johnson
Superior Court, King County, Washington

Presiding Justice Harry W. Low
Court of Appeal, California

Edward B. McConnell
President, National Center for State Courts

Chief Justice Vincent L. McKusick
Supreme Judicial Court of Maine

Judge Margie M. Meacham
County Court of Carbon County, Wyoming

J. Denis Moran
Director of State Courts, Wisconsin

Chief Justice Robert N.C. Nix, Jr.
Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

John H. Pickering, Esq.
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering, District of Columbia

Judge Floyd E. Propst
Probate Court of Fulton County, Georgia

Chief Justice Dorothy Comstock Riley
Supreme Court of Michigan

C. Kenneth Roberts, Esq.
Exxon Company, Texas

Chief Judge Gerald T. Wetherington
11th Judicial Circuit, Florida

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS

Geoff Gallas, Director
Research and Special Services

Court Statistics Project Staff

David B. Rottman, Director
Todd M. Stickle, Staff Associate
Karen Gillions Way, Staff Associate
Carol R. Flango, Staff Associate
Natalie B. Davis, Administrative Secretary
JoAnn Adkins, Administrative Secretary
Greg Tolbert, Part-time Research Associate

Publication Service
Dennis Miller, Director
Bill Fishback, Editor
Charles F. Campbell, Associate Editor
Tina Beaven, Art Director
Hisako Sayers, Assistant Art Director
Mary McCall, Publications Production Coordinator

Acknowledgments

This report is possible because of the cooperation and assistance extended by three groups. First, state court administrators and their staff provide most of the information contained in the report. They also respond to requests for clarification and notify project staff of changes to the jurisdiction and recordkeeping arrangements of the courts in their state. We owe a particular debt to the individuals in the administrative offices of the courts who serve as contact persons between their office and the Court Statistics Project.

Second, appellate court clerks in many states provide published or unpublished caseload statistics. The willingness of court clerks and their staff to provide and verify appellate court data is much appreciated.

Third, the 12 members of the Conference of State Court Administrator's Court Statistics and Technology Committee provide policy direction at all stages of preparing the report. Their review of the report in draft form is of particular importance. Project staff benefit, however, throughout the year from advice, suggestions, and guidance of committee members.

The contribution made by various individuals is also gratefully acknowledged. Craig Boersema was Deputy Director of the Court Statistics Project until November 30, 1988. Craig's responsibilities as Director of the Trial Court Information Network limited his involvement in preparing this report, but his thorough review of the trial court data made an important contribution to the accuracy of the 1987 statistics. Part I of the report had the benefit of substantive and editorial comments from Roger Hanson and Ted Rubin, both National Center for State Courts' staff. Margaret Carlini did the wordprocessing of a number of tables and figures in the report.

Responsibility for all errors and omissions in the report lies with the Court Statistics Project staff. The more general responsibility for this report series and the process of improving the accuracy and usefulness of state court statistics lie with NCSC management and the Court Statistics Project staff, working with the policy direction of the COSCA Court Statistics and Technology Committee. Corrections, suggestions, and questions should be sent to the Director, Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8798.

Contents

Acknowledgments vii

Overview of the Report xiii

Part I: State Court Caseloads in 1987 1

Appellate Court Caseloads in 1987 4
  Appellate Court Structure and Jurisdiction in 1987 4
  The Composition of Appellate Court Caseloads in 1987 6
  Mandatory Appellate Caseloads in 1987 9
    Mandatory Appeals Fined in State Appellate Courts in 1987 9
    Clearance Rates for Mandatory Appeals in 1987 10
  Discretionary Appellate Caseloads in 1987 10
    Discretionary Petitions Filed 11
    Clearance Rates for Discretionary Petitions. 12
    Discretionary Petitions Granted 12
  Mandatory Appeals and Petitions Granted in 1987 13
  Appellate Court Opinions in 1987 14
  Appellate Courts in 1987: A Summary. 15
Trial Court Caseloads in 1987 15
  Trial Courts of General and Limited Jurisdiction 16
  Civil Filings in 1987 18
    Clearance Rates for Civil Cases in 1987 19
  Criminal Filings in 1987 20
    Clearance Rates for Criminal Cases in 1987 22
  Juvenile Filings in 1987 23
    Clearance Rates for Juvenile Petitions in 1987 25
  Trial Courts in 1987: A Summary 25
Trends in Civil and Criminal Court Filings: 1981-1987 26
  Trends in Tort Filings 27
  Torts as a Percentage of Total Civil Filings. 29
  Trends in General Civil Filings: 1981–1987 30
  Trends in Felony Filings: 1981–1987 30
  Case Filing Trends, 1981-1987: A Summary 32
Conclusion 33

Appendix to Part I 35
  TABLE 1.1: Tort Filings in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1987 36
  TABLE 1.2: Total Civil and Tort Filings in State Trial Courts, 1985-1987 40

TABLE 1.3: General Civil Filings in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1987 44
TABLE 1.4: Felony Filings in State Trial Courts, 1981-1987 48

Part II: 1987 State Court Caseload Tables 51

TABLE 1: Reported National Caseload for State Appellate Courts, 1987. Mandatory jurisdiction cases and discretionary jurisdiction petitions in courts of last resort and intermediate appellate courts. 52
TABLE 2: Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1987. Total mandatory cases, total discretionary petitions, and total discretionary petitions granted that are filed and disposed. The number of and filed per judge figures for both the sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions, and the sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted. Court type and the point at which cases are counted 54
TABLE 3: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1987. Court type. Filed and disposed cases. Disposed as a percent of filed. Number of judges. Filed per judge. Filed per 100,000 population 66
TABLE 4: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1987. Court type. Filed and disposed cases. Disposed as a percent of filed. Number of judges. Filed (disposed) per judge. Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population 72
TABLE 5: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted in State Appellate Courts, 1987. Court type. Filed and disposed cases. Disposed as a percent of filed. Number of judges. Filed (disposed) per judge. Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population. . 77
TABLE 6: Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts, 1987. Opinion unit of count. Content of opinion count. Number of justices/judges. Number of lawyer support personnel. 81
TABLE 7: Reported National Civil and Criminal Caseload for State Trial Courts, 1987. 85
TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1987. Jurisdiction, parking, criminal unit of count and support/custody codes. Case filings and dispositions. Dispositions as a percentage of filings. Filings per 100,000 total population. 88
TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1987. Jurisdiction, support/custody codes. Case filings and dispositions. Dispositions as a percentage of filings. Filings per 100,000 total population 100
TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1987. Jurisdiction, criminal unit of count and point of filing codes. Case filings and dispositions. Dispositions as a percentage of filings. Filings per 100,000 adult population 108
TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1987. All courts. Jurisdiction, parking codes. Case filings and dispositions. Dispositions as a percentage of filings. Filings per 100,000 total population 116
TABLE 12: Reported Total State Trial Court Juvenile Caseload, 1987. Jurisdiction, point of filing codes. Case filings and dispositions. Dispositions as a percentage of filings. Filings per 100,000 juvenile population 123

Part III: 1987 State Court Structure Charts 129

Court Structure Charts: An Explanatory Note 131
State Court Structure Prototype 1987 133
State Court Structure Charts: Alabama through Wyoming 134

Part IV: Figures 187

FIGURE A: Reporting Periods for All State Courts, 1987 189
FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1987 191
FIGURE C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract, Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in State Trial Courts, 1987 199
FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by the State Trial Courts, 1987 205
FIGURE E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1987 211
FIGURE F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction, 1987 216
FIGURE G: Number of Judges/Justices in the State Courts, 1987 222
FIGURE H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts, 1987 225
FIGURE I: Method of Counting Support/Custody Cases in State Trial Courts, 1987. 231

Appendices 237

Appendix A: Methodology 239

The Court Statistics Project: Goals and Organization 241
Evolution of the Court Statistics Project 241
Sources of Data 242
Data Collection Procedures 242
Variables 243
Graphics as a Method of Displaying Caseload 243
Footnotes 243
Variations in Reporting Periods 244

Appendix B: Sources of 1987 State Court Caseload Statistics 245

Appendix C: Prototype Statistical Profiles 251

Prototype of State Appellate Court Statistical Profile Used in 1987 Data Collection 252
Prototype of State Trial Court Statistical Profile Used in 1987 Data Collection 257

Appendix D: State Populations 263
Resident Population, 1987 265
Total State Population for Trend Tables, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987 266

Overview of the Report

This report offers a comprehensive picture of the work of state appellate and trial courts in 1987. It is the eleventh in a series of annual reports on state court caseloads. The 1987 report is consistent with previous reports and enhances the comparability and accessibility of the relevant information. The overview introduces the main parts of the report and explains their interrelationships, indicates several possible uses of caseload statistics, provides suggestions on how to use the report, and describes the nature of the National Center for State Courts' (NCSC) Court Statistics Project.

Contents of the 1987 Report

The 1987 report is divided into four parts. Part I is a commentary on 1987 appellate and trial court caseloads across the country, which highlights findings of general interest and discusses factors pertinent to any examination of state caseload data. Part I also presents trends since 1981 in filings of selected categories of cases, including torts and felonies.

Part II presents the case filing and case disposition data from individual state courts. The twelve detailed tables, six describing appellate courts and six describing trial courts, represent the core of the report. The level of detail is consistent with the purpose of the tables, which is to serve as a basic reference source. Footnotes to the caseload numbers contained in the tables explain particular features that affect the comparability of certain caseload figures.

In most instances, a footnote alerts the reader to one of three situations. Caseload numbers can be overinclusive in the types of cases that are covered, underinclusive through the omission of certain types of cases, or both. A caseload number is comparable when it meets the definition for the caseload-reporting category recommended by the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.

Part III summarizes the structure of each state court system in the form of a one-page chart. The charts identify all of the state courts in operation during the year, describe their geographic and subject matter jurisdiction, note the number of authorized judicial posts, identify whether funding is primarily local or state, and indicate the routes of appeal that link the courts.

Part IV lists the statutes and recordkeeping practices that may have an impact on the comparability of caseload information reported by the courts. The nine figures in Part IV note, for example, the time period used for court statistical reporting, whether calendar year, fiscal year, or court calendar year; define the method by which cases are counted in appellate courts and in criminal, civil, and juvenile trial court proceedings; identify trial courts with the authority to hear appeals; and detail how trial courts resolve the specific issues raised when counting support/custody cases. The figures define what constitutes a case in each court, making it possible to determine which appellate and trial courts compile caseloads on a similar basis. The most important information in the figures is repeated in the main caseload tables (Part II).

Appendix A explains the methodology used to collate the information provided by the states into a standard format.

Uses of Court Statistics

Caseload statistics are simply counts of the number of cases filed and disposed of by a court and, if available, inventories of the number of cases pending at the beginning and at the end of the reporting period. That information provides building blocks that can be combined to construct answers to questions about the state courts.

The broad outline of state court activity emerges from caseload statistics, because they directly address such basic descriptive questions as How many disputes are the courts asked to resolve? and How many of those disputes are in fact decided? Furthermore, caseload statistics can be combined with jurisdictional and other information in this report to describe the work and operations of the state courts. Topics that can be addressed include the composition of caseloads at different court levels, the extent of casetype specialization by particular courts, and the effect of discretionary review on the ability of appellate courts to avoid case backlogs.

Within the limits discussed below, caseload statistics offer a basis for determining the similarities and differences among state court systems. To what extent are appellate and trial courts in various states processing similar types of cases in similar volumes? States can then be grouped into distinct categories, and the impact of those distinctions on the ability of courts to keep up with their incoming caseloads determined. Caseload statistics for several years can be combined to discern trends. Felony case filings can be traced over time and compared to changes during the same time period to case filings for other types of criminal offenses. The national consistency or changes, up or down, in the level of civil litigation can be studied as well.

There are limits, however, to the uses of available court caseload statistics. A court case is not analogous to a unit of currency. Financial accounts are precise and comparable among firms because accountants can make use of a standard unit—the dollar or other national currency. By contrast, court cases vary in subject matter and complexity. A criminal case can be an accusation of murder or of petty theft. A civil suit may seek to recover $25 dollars in losses or $25 million. This report necessarily focuses on broad categories of cases: mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions for appellate courts; civil, criminal, and juvenile cases for trial courts.

How to Use the Report

This report accommodates all of the uses mentioned above. The commentary in Part I is fashioned from material in Parts II, III, and IV. The user's purpose should determine the parts that are consulted and the order in which they are consulted.

Part I should suffice if the report is being used to obtain a general description of the work of the state courts during 1987. The methodology in Appendix A should be reviewed, however, before drawing specific conclusions.

The best route for obtaining information on a specific state or a specific state court is to read Appendix A and then consult the relevant caseload tables in Part II. Detailed information on the status of the information in the court or state can be found in footnotes to the tables, as well as in Parts III and IV. For example, the total caseload for the trial courts of Virginia can be found in Table 8, Part II. A footnote indicates that the total conforms to the specifications in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary,* and a code indicates that parking violations are counted as court filings. The court structure chart for Virginia in Part III describes the subject matter of the cases that compose the total, while the figures in Part IV provide details on how the various types of civil and criminal cases are defined.

Differences in the size and composition of court caseloads reflect how states divide the jurisdiction to decide cases and how states collect and disseminate court statistics. Comparisons among states or courts, therefore, require considerable care. Parts III and IV are essential for determining when like is being compared to like. Appendix A explains the conventions and codes that assist the user in identifying similar courts with similar caseload counts.

The NCSC Court Statistics Project

The NCSC Court Statistics Project (CSP) was set up in 1977 to establish a meaningful statistical portrait of the work of the state courts. The caseload report series and other project publications, such as the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*, encourage uniformity in how courts and state court administrative offices collect and publish caseload information.

The 1987 report, like previous reports in the series, is a joint effort by the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). COSCA, through its Court Statistics and Technology Committee, oversees the preparation of all project publications and provides policy guidance when establishing or revising generic reporting categories and procedures. NCSC provides project staff and support facilities. Preparation of the 1987 report was funded by a grant from the State Justice Institute to NCSC.

The staff of the Court Statistics Project can provide advice and clarification on the use of the statistics from this and previous caseload reports. Project staff can also provide the full range of information delivered by the states. The prototype statistical profiles (Appendix C), which are used by project staff to collect data, reflect the full range of information sought from the states. Many states provide caseload information that is far more detailed than that presented in Part II of this report. Comments, suggestions, criticisms, and corrections from users of the report are encouraged. Please direct all questions and reactions regarding the report to:

Director, Court Statistics Project
National Center for State Courts
300 Newport Avenue
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8798

Part I

State Court Caseloads in 1987

State Court Caseloads in 1987

During 1987, more than 94 million new cases were filed in the state courts. Appeals and discretionary petitions to state appellate courts account for 209,000 of those cases. The rest were trial court filings, consisting of 16 million civil cases, 11.3 million criminal cases, 1.3 million juvenile cases, and 65.6 million traffic or other ordinance violation cases.

Civil trial court filings, which include torts, contracts, small claims, and domestic relations cases, grew 2.4 percent over the 1986 total. Criminal trial court filings, which include felony and misdemeanor cases, increased 4.5 percent over the previous year's total. These increases parallel the experience of appellate courts, where filings grew by 3.9 percent.

The 94 million new cases make the state courts a far more frequent forum for dispute resolution than the federal courts. During 1987, there were 41,599 appeals and petitions filed in the federal appellate courts; 4,493 were directed to the U.S. Supreme Court. There were 233,292 new civil filings and 44,335 new criminal filings in the main federal trial courts, the U.S. District Courts, during 1987.[1] Consequently, five times as many appeals and a hundred times as many civil and criminal trial court cases were filed in state courts than were filed in federal courts.

Although the state court totals are not complete, the caseload statistics reported in this volume offer the most comprehensive picture available of the number and types of cases reaching appellate and trial courts nationwide. Basic filing and disposition data are available for all state appellate courts, although cases cannot always be divided into specific categories. Trial court caseloads are available for all but two states. Statistics for other states are incomplete, with traffic and ordinance violation cases being the most underreported.

This commentary uses 1987 state court caseload statistics toward three main objectives. The first describes the work of state court systems, identifying similarities and differences. The second relates the similarities and differences to the manner in which states organize their court systems and other state-specific characteristics. The third assesses changes over time in state court caseloads.

Part I meets those objectives through the following framework. Appellate courts are examined first in a section that begins by describing and establishing patterns in overall state appellate caseloads. The section then reviews the variation among states in the rate at which the two specific types of cases are filed: mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions. The section reviews, for both types of cases, the extent to which appellate courts in 1987 kept pace with their incoming caseload and, for discretionary petitions, the percentage granted by the court. Subsections examine the cases filed that appellate courts will decide on the merits and the number of opinions written during 1987.

Part I's second section focuses on trial courts. Trial court caseloads are examined with respect to the division of labor among types of trial courts and then with respect to the filing and disposition of civil, criminal, and juvenile cases during 1987. Both the appellate and trial court sections conclude by discussing identified similarities and differences and their relationship to court organization.

Although both the sections on appellate and trial courts compare 1987 caseloads to those from 1986, more extensive trend analysis is offered in the third section. The trend section focuses on changes since 1981 in the number of tort and felony case filings. Torts and felonies are the focus because of the demands that such cases place on court resources, their importance to current public policy debates, and the consistency over time in the definition of these two reporting categories. Part I concludes with a section that reiterates the main findings and a statement of the conclusions that tie the tables, charts, graphs, and maps to the three objectives.

The commentary in Part I is a synthesis of material from the other three parts of the report: the main caseload statistics tables, the court structure charts, and the figures describing court jurisdiction and statistical reporting practices. Before proceeding, it is helpful to arm the reader with basic knowledge about factors that affect the comparability of the caseload statistics.

"Comparable" in this report refers to the methodology of reporting court caseloads established by the Conference of State Court Administrators through its Court Statistics and Technology Committee, as defined in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.[2] Comparability is most often compromised when a court's caseload is incomplete, overinclusive, or counted by a method that inflates or deflates its magnitude relative to other courts.

---

[1] Filings in the U.S. Courts of Appeals and the U.S. District Courts are from *Want's Federal State Court Directory: 1989 Edition*, Washington, D.C.: Want Publishing. Filings in the U.S. Supreme Court are from unpublished statistics provided by the Office of the Clerk and refer to the 12 months ending September 30, 1987. U.S. District Court filings do not include bankruptcy code filings, which are heard by bankruptcy judges, or misdemeanor cases heard by magistrates.

[2] National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1980, and *Supplement*, Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1984. A revised and consolidated edition will be published in 1989.

"Incomplete" means that types of cases that should be included in a count are omitted. For example, the definition of criminal case found in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* includes the offense of driving while intoxicated (DWI/DUI). A general jurisdiction trial court that has jurisdiction over such cases but classifies them, for reporting purposes, with traffic violations rather than with criminal cases would have its total criminal caseload footnoted as incomplete.

Conversely, if DWI/DUI cases are heard in a court of limited jurisdiction, but cannot be separated from the "traffic and other violation" cases filed in the court, the statistics on "traffic/other ordinance" violation cases will be footnoted as overinclusive, since they include cases that should be categorized as criminal.

Comparability is also affected by basic decisions a state or court makes when designing its court records system. One basic decision is the "unit of count." Some appellate courts count the receipt of the "notice of appeal" as the step that initiates the appellate process. Other courts wait until the trial court record is prepared and transmitted to the appellate court before counting a filing, by which time many appeals have been withdrawn, settled, or dismissed, especially in civil cases (see Figure B, Part IV, p. 191).

Trial courts differ both in what is counted as a filing and in when the count is taken. For criminal cases, some courts count each charge, some count each defendant, and some use charging documents that contain multiple charges and/or multiple defendants. Counts are taken at an early stage in some courts, such as the filing of the complaint, while other courts count only those cases that result in an arraignment. These practices are described using a common framework in Figure D, Part IV (p. 205).

Trial courts tend to count civil cases at the filing of an initial petition or complaint with the clerk of court, but practices vary. What constitutes a case may differ by specific casetype; for example, courts differ in whether support/custody proceedings are counted as a case filing or as part of the marriage dissolution case. As is true for criminal cases, a common framework is used in this report to describe the method of count used in each state court for civil cases generally (Figure H, p. 225) and for support/custody cases specifically (Figure I, p. 231).

Part I uses charts, graphs, and maps to summarize caseload and related information contained in the other parts of the report. The goal is comparability, but differences in case volume reflect many factors, including the constitutions, statutes, court structure and rules, and administrative recordkeeping practices of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Appellate Court Caseloads in 1987

State appellate courts reported 208,962 filings in 1987: 154,701 mandatory appeals and 54,261 discretionary petitions. Case filing data were available for all 94 courts of last resort (COLRs) and intermediate appellate courts (IACs) in the 50 states and the District of Columbia.[3]

Some of the reported filings, however, contain undercounting or double counting. Table 1, Part II (p. 52) allows a detailed review of the quality of the caseload information used to generate the national totals.

Appellate Court Structure and Jurisdiction in 1987

Mandatory jurisdiction refers to appeals as a matter of right: those cases for which the court is required by state constitution or statute to hear and decide the appeal on the merits. Discretionary jurisdiction refers to casetypes in which a party must file a petition asking the court to hear the case. The appellate court then decides whether to exercise its discretionary power to consider the case on the merits.

All states have established a court of last resort (COLR), usually named the supreme court, in their constitutions. The COLR has the final jurisdiction over all appeals within the state. Thirty-eight states have also established one or more intermediate appellate courts to hear appeals from trial courts and administrative agencies as specified in state law or at the discretion of the COLR.[4] Twenty-four states organized their IAC on a statewide basis and fourteen on a regional basis in 1987.

According to an influential perspective[5] on the appropriate role and structure of appellate courts, there are two basic functions: (1) the review of specific trial court proceedings to correct errors in the application of law and procedure, and (2) the development of law for the benefit of the community at large. The error-correction function should be exercised through mandatory jurisdiction, with each unsuccessful party entitled to one appeal as a matter of right. Further appellate review should develop the law, ensuring the uniform application of the law by trial courts throughout the state. This should be undertaken on a discretionary basis. Where the volume of cases exceeds the capacity of the COLR, an IAC should assume the error-correction function, and the COLR should, by the exercise of its discretion to review all manner of appeals, develop the law.

The influence of this perspective on state court systems is evident by the extent which states have created IACs in response to growing appellate caseloads. Twenty-five states established IACs in recent decades (since 1958). Yet, despite the common contexts in which they were created, a careful examination reveals complex differences in the allocation of jurisdiction to both COLRs and

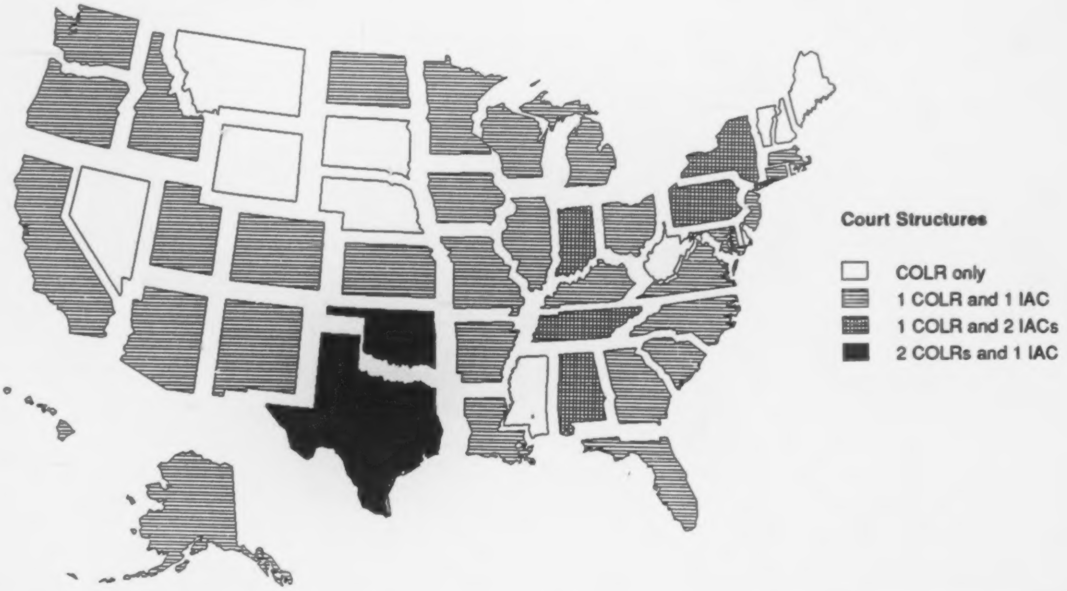
---

[3] Puerto Rico reports trial court but not appellate court statistics to the NCSC Court Statistics Project.

[4] Effective July 1, 1987, through January 1, 1990, a temporary court of appeals is established in North Dakota "to exercise appellate and original jurisdiction as delegated by the supreme court" (sections 27-07.1-17, North Dakota Century Code). The court sits in three-judge panels. The two panels of the IAC called during 1987 heard six cases on assignment from the COLR.

[5] The perspective is put forward in several authoritative texts that vary in nuance. The summary here is derived from the American Bar Association, *Standards Relating to Court Organization,* Chicago: American Bar Association, 1974, pp. 1-10.

MAP 1: The Distribution of Appellate Courts, 1987

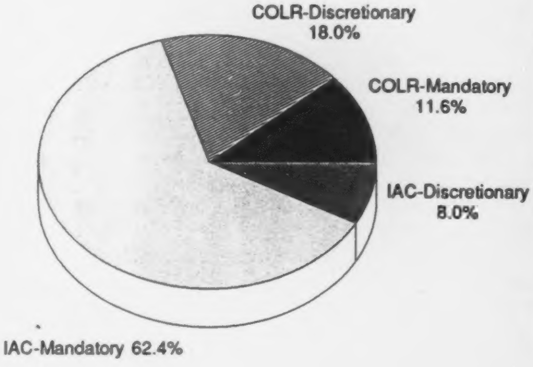


IACs.[6] When one matches appellate structure with jurisdiction, the consequences of these complex differences are highlighted. The matching process produces four categories of cases: (1) COLR mandatory appeals, (2) COLR discretionary petitions, (3) IAC mandatory appeals, and (4) IAC discretionary petitions.

If we combine the appellate filings reported by the states according to court level and jurisdiction, the 1987 appellate caseload is as shown in Chart 1. Eighteen percent of all filings were discretionary petitions to COLRs, and 12 percent of all filings took the form of mandatory appeals to COLRs. Mandatory appeals to IACs represented 62 percent of the total state appellate caseload for the year, while 8 percent consisted of discretionary petitions to IACs.

The text and graphics that follow will compare appellate caseloads reported by the states. The information is placed in context by first considering appellate court structure and jurisdiction throughout the nation.

CHART 1: Appellate Case Filings, 1987



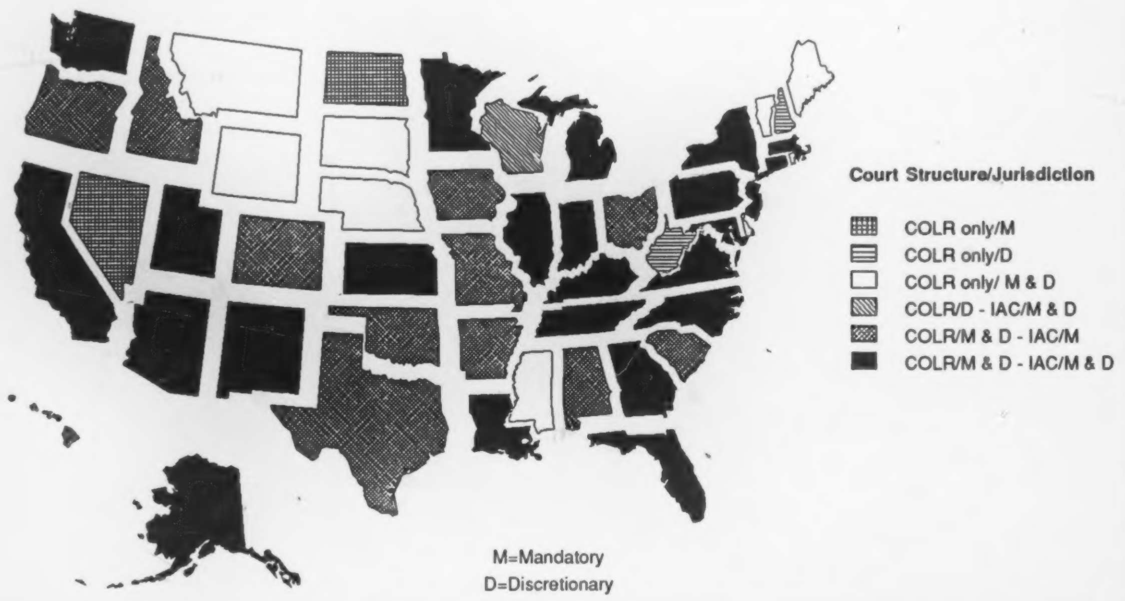
Total=208,962

Map 1 presents the number of courts that have been established at each level in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The 13 states with only one appellate court are sparsely populated or geographically small. Thirty-one states have one COLR and one IAC. Texas and Oklahoma have separate COLRs for criminal and civil cases and one IAC. Four states have established multiple IACs. Alabama

---

[6] This perspective has clearly applied with great force to the federal system. The U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeals were established in 1891 as an IAC on a regional basis and assumed much of the U.S. Supreme Court's mandatory caseload. The federal appellate system evolved subsequently through a series of significant transfers of mandatory appellate jurisdiction from the Supreme Court to the Circuit Courts of Appeal. This culminated in Public Law 100-352 (Act of June 27, 1988, 102 Stat. 662), which "substantially eliminates" the mandatory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. Seven states established an IAC before 1891: Illinois, Louisiana, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Texas (Robert R. Stern, *Appellate Practice in the United States*, Washington, D.C.: Bureau of National Affairs, 1981, p. 9).

MAP 2: Appellate Court Caseload Jurisdiction, 1987



and Tennessee maintain separate courts for civil and criminal appeals, while Pennsylvania divides jurisdiction between its commonwealth court and its superior court on the basis of subject matter. New York divides jurisdiction between its two IACs primarily by the trial court from which the appeal is taken.

Map 2 presents how states allocate mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction within their appellate systems. The District of Columbia and eight of the 13 states with only one appellate court have both mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction. The COLRs in New Hampshire, West Virginia, and Wisconsin exercise full discretionary jurisdiction over their dockets, while all COLR filings in Nevada, North Dakota, and Wyoming are appeals of right (totally mandatory jurisdiction). States with IACs obviously vary in the manner in which jurisdiction is allocated between court levels.

The Composition of Appellate Court Caseloads in 1987

As a generalization, the substantial portion of the work of COLRs is to review petitions and then decide the petitions granted. Of every 100 cases filed in a state COLR, 61 were discretionary petitions. This contrasts with the IAC caseload, in which only 11 of every 100 filings were discretionary petitions. IACs are clearly the workhorses of state appellate systems. Nearly three quarters (72.2 percent) of appellate filings in states with both a COLR and an IAC went to the IAC.[7]

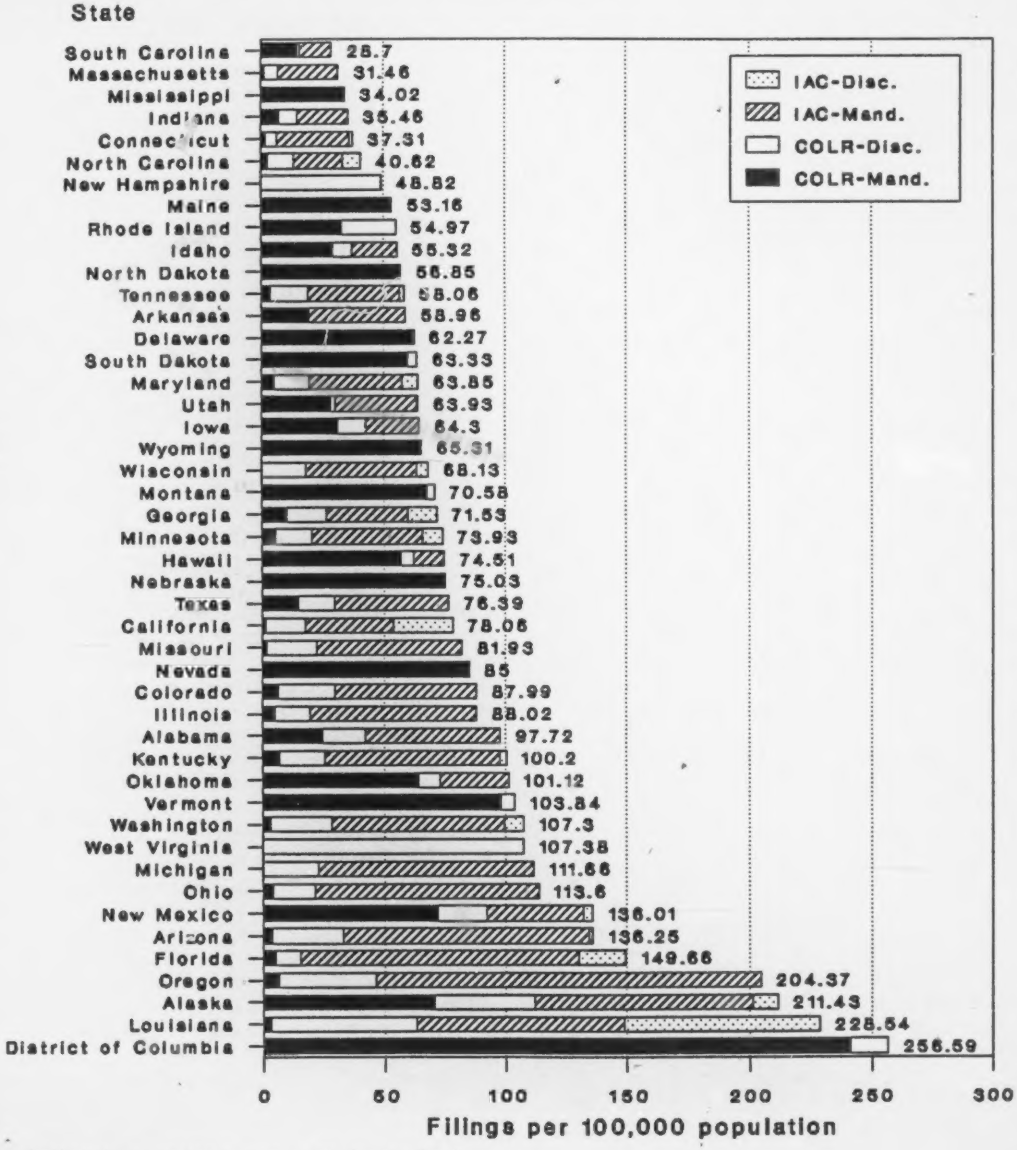
The issue examined here is whether differences in appellate structure are associated with distinctive caseload patterns. Several interrelated questions revolve around this issue. Are the caseloads of one-level appellate systems distinctive from two-level appellate systems? Does the generalization cited above on the respective role of COLRs and IACs in two-tier systems apply to all states or are other patterns identifiable? Are states with multiple appellate courts at any level distinctive in the composition of their caseloads? Such questions are important, as the answers indicate the extent to which like is being compared with like when appellate systems are discussed. These issues are addressed next.

The 1987 totals for the appellate courts of individual states can be found in Table 2, Part II (p. 54), which reports the number of mandatory appeals filed and disposed, the number of petitions that were filed and disposed, and the number of petitions granted (and previously granted petition dispositions). States are listed according to their appellate structure. Consequently, states with one COLR and one IAC are listed first, followed by states with only a COLR, and finally states with more than one COLR or IAC. The appellate system of North Dakota will be grouped with states that have only a COLR. North Dakota's temporary court of appeals heard six cases during 1987 on assignment from the COLR; all appellate caseload statistics are reported as COLR filings and dispositions.

---

[7] A second appeal is possible in most states with a two-tier appellate system. This means that a case may be counted twice in a state's filing statistics, first as a mandatory appeal of the trial court judgment to the IAC and then as a petition for review by the COLR of an unfavorable IAC decision. One study concluded that between one-fifth and one-half of IAC decisions are appealed to the COLR but that few of those petitions are granted. See Stephen Wasby, Thomas Marvel, and Alexander Aikman, *Volume and Delay in State Appellate Courts: Problems and Responses*, Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1979, pp. 54-55.

GRAPH 1: Total Appellate Filings per 100,000 Population, 1987



The following states are not included:
KS, NJ, NY, PA, VA.

Graph 1 displays case filings per 100,000 population in the appellate courts of 45 states and the District of Columbia. The information used to generate the graph can be found in Table 2, Part II (p. 54). The main conclusions that can be drawn from the graph are the similarity of caseload levels once adjusted for state population size and that particular appellate structures do not appear to be closely linked to high or low caseloads.[8]

These reported filing levels reflect court rules, definitions of appellate jurisdiction, methods of counting filings, the incidental appellate jurisdiction assigned to trial courts, and the rate at which trial court filings result in trials and, thus, generate issues that can be the subject of an appeal. Variation in these factors will result in differences between states in filing rates and, if they were taken into consideration, would probably reduce the amount of variation among states in the same region and with similar sizes and economic bases. The variation found in Graph 1 will be examined by appellate court structure.

---

[8] Graph 1 overstates the presence of mandatory appeals relative to discretionary petitions in appellate court caseloads. The footnotes to Table 2, Part II indicate that the number of mandatory appeals is overinclusive, encompassing all discretionary petitions in the following courts: Arkansas Supreme Court, Illinois Appellate Court, Indiana Court of Appeals, Massachusetts Appeals Court, Michigan Court of Appeals, Maine Supreme Judicial Court, and Nebraska Supreme Court.

States with only one appellate court are easily identified in Graph 1. The bar representing their case filings has either one or two sections. Filing rates per 100,000 population in those states tend to be lower than in states with a two-level appellate system. The difference is not absolute. Nevada and Vermont have filing rates above the median, as do West Virginia, which has entirely discretionary jurisdiction, and the District of Columbia, which has the highest filing rate.

Three of the 13 states with only one appellate court have entirely mandatory jurisdiction (Nevada, North Dakota, and Wyoming). Another four states (Delaware, Maine, Mississippi, and Nebraska) have allocated only minor discretionary jurisdiction to their appellate courts, and no discretionary petitions were filed in those courts during 1987. Filings in the appellate courts of the District of Columbia, Montana, South Dakota, and Vermont were overwhelmingly mandatory appeals. Rhode Island was the only state with one appellate court in which discretionary petitions and mandatory appeals were filed in roughly equal numbers. The COLRs in New Hampshire and West Virginia have solely discretionary jurisdiction, but most of the work of other COLRs in one-tier appellate systems is to decide mandatory appeals.

Appellate filings in states with one COLR and one IAC tend to conform to the standard perspective on appellate structure and jurisdiction. Filings in the COLR represent a small proportion of the state total and are mainly discretionary petitions. Filings in the IAC are primarily mandatory cases. This describes the appellate systems of Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Oregon, Washington, and Wisconsin. Most of these states have total appellate filing rates above the median.

Louisiana, Maryland, and North Carolina adhere to only part of the perspective. Discretionary petitions form a larger than typical share of IAC filings in these three states.

Seven states offer a very different pattern, with most filings in the COLR rather than the IAC and filings at both levels primarily in the form of mandatory appeals: Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Iowa, New Mexico, South Carolina, and Utah (the Utah IAC went into operation on February 1, 1987).[9] The pattern is perhaps clearest in New Mexico. In that state, 64 percent of mandatory appeals and 84 percent of discretionary petitions were filed in the COLR, and there were more than three times as many mandatory appeals than discretionary petitions filed in the COLR (Table 2, Part II, p. 54). That basic pattern applies to those states in which the IAC hears cases on assignment from the COLR. All IAC filings in Hawaii, Idaho, and Iowa are filed with the court through assignment by the state COLR, while filings in the South Carolina IAC arrive both directly and through COLR assignment., With the exception of New Mexico, these states have relatively low rates of total appellate filings per 100,000 population.

Alaska, the remaining state with one COLR and one IAC, is distinctive because a substantial share of the total appellate filings are in the COLR, and most COLR filings are mandatory appeals rather than discretionary petitions. The Alaska COLR has mandatory jurisdiction to hear civil appeals and discretionary jurisdiction over other appellate casetypes, while that state's IAC has mandatory jurisdiction over criminal cases but no jurisdiction in civil cases.

Alabama and Tennessee have separate IACs for civil and criminal appeals. Tennessee conforms to the most common pattern of a COLR with a limited share of the total caseload consisting mainly of discretionary petitions and an IAC with case filings in the form of mandatory appeals. The Alabama appellate caseload is more evenly divided between the two court levels, and the majority of COLR cases and all of the IAC cases are mandatory appeals.

Texas has two COLRs, one having jurisdiction exclusively over criminal appeals. The combined COLR caseload is about one-half mandatory. In other respects, the pattern is similar to the most common one in that the vast majority of appellate filings are mandatory cases in the IAC.

There is much diversity in the composition of state appellate caseloads. That diversity reflects how states have variously responded to increases in the volume of case filings. The available statistical evidence suggests that state appellate caseloads doubled in the 1960s and then again in the 1970s.[10] Some states conform to the standard perspective on structuring and allocating jurisdiction to their appellate courts. Other patterns can be identified, however, even among states with two-tier systems. Local circumstances and needs tempered the application of the standard perspective in many states. In particular, the bulk of the appellate burden remains on the COLR in some states (e.g. Alaska and New Mexico), and some states (e.g. Georgia, Kentucky, and Maryland) have retained substantial mandatory jurisdiction in their COLRs and allocated discretion to their IACs.

The connection between caseload composition and appellate structure is important for any consideration of the work, operations, and problems of appellate courts nationally. Care is required when determining when like is being compared to like. The diversity in structures and jurisdiction also has clear practical consequences. The 3.9 percent increase in total appellate filings between 1986 and 1987 was not evenly experienced by COLRs and IACs, or evenly divided between mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions. Overall, COLR filings increased by 3.0 percent and IAC filings by 4.3 percent. The increase was strongest for discretionary petitions filed in IACs: the IACs with relevant data for both years reported 7.6 percent more discretionary petitions in 1987 than in 1986. Filings of mandatory appeals in IACs increased by 3.9 percent.

---

[9] In Oklahoma, the state supreme court also assigns cases to the state's IAC, the court of appeals.

[10] "State appellate caseloads have, on the average, doubled every ten years since the Second World War." American Bar Association, Judicial Administration Division, *Standards Relating to Appellate Delay Reduction*, Chicago: American Bar Association, 1988, p. 11.

COLR mandatory appeals increased by 2.1 percent and COLR discretionary petitions by 3.6 percent.

The rest of the appellate caseload section considers, in turn, mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions. For mandatory appeals, the focus is on filing rates per 100,000 population and dispositions as a percentage of filings. For discretionary petitions, the topics include filing rates, petitions disposed as a percentage of petitions filed, and the percentage of petitions granted. The information on mandatory appeals and number of petitions is then brought together. The number of petitions granted during 1987 is added to the number of mandatory appeals filed to yield what is a basic caseload measure for many appellate systems: the number of cases to be heard and decided on the merits. Appellate opinions are the final topic considered in this section of the commentary.

Mandatory Appellate Caseloads in 1987

States reported 154,701 mandatory appeals in 1987, 15.7 percent of which were filed in COLRs. Forty-eight states and the District of Columbia had appellate courts with mandatory jurisdiction.

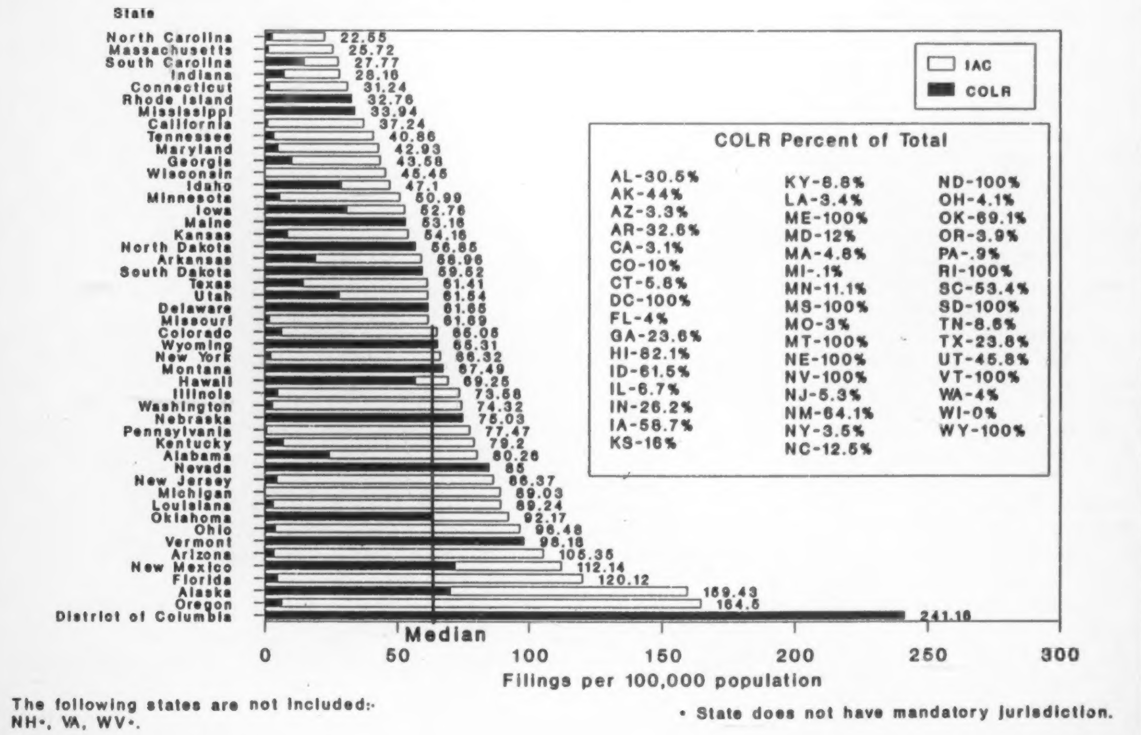
MANDATORY APPEALS FILED IN STATE APPELLATE COURTS IN 1987. Graph 2 summarizes mandatory filings in 47 states and the District of Columbia, based on the information presented in Table 3, Part II (p. 66). Filings are expressed as rates per 100,000 population, and filings in a COLR are differentiated from those in an IAC.

The resulting range is substantial, from 23 per 100,000 population in North Carolina to 241 per 100,000 population in the District of Columbia. The median rate is 63.4, with nearly one-half of the states (22 of 46) falling within a band that includes Minnesota (51 filings per 100,000 population) and Alabama (80 filings per 100,000 population). There is, thus, a broad middle range of states with roughly comparable levels of mandatory appeals.

There is no evident pattern linking filing rates to region, state population, or court structure. States without an IAC tend to be small, located in New England or the West, and tend to have a COLR with little or no discretionary jurisdiction. Yet the 11 states meeting those criteria (with the addition of Mississippi) are scattered on the graph. Rhode Island (32.8) and Mississippi (33.9) are at the low end; Maine (53.2), North Dakota (56.9), South Dakota (59.5), and Delaware (61.7) fall below the median rate of 66.0; Montana and Nebraska are located slightly above the median; and Nevada (85) and Vermont (98.2) show rates considerably above average.

The highest filing rate is in the District of Columbia, which has one appellate court with very limited discretionary jurisdiction. Of the four states with the next highest per 100,000 population filing rate, two (Alaska and New Mex-

GRAPH 2: Mandatory Filings per 100,000 Population, 1987



COLR Percent of Total

AL-30.5%
AK-44%
AZ-3.3%
AR-32.6%
CA-3.1%
CO-10%
CT-5.8%
DC-100%
FL-4%
GA-23.6%
HI-82.1%
ID-61.5%
IL-6.7%
IN-26.2%
IA-56.7%
KS-16%

KY-8.8%
LA-3.4%
ME-100%
MD-12%
MA-4.8%
MI-.1%
MN-11.1%
MS-100%
MO-3%
MT-100%
NE-100%
NV-100%
NJ-5.3%
NM-64.1%
NY-3.5%
NC-12.5%

ND-100%
OH-4.1%
OK-69.1%
OR-3.9%
PA-.9%
RI-100%
SC-53.4%
SD-100%
TN-8.6%
TX-23.8%
UT-45.8%
VT-100%
WA-4%
WI-0%
WY-100%

The following states are not included:
NH•, VA, WV•.

• State does not have mandatory jurisdiction.

ico) retain substantial mandatory jurisdiction at the COLR level and two—Florida and Oregon—do not. Some of the ranking of states found in Graph 2 may be attributable to differences in the breadth of appellate court jurisdiction and to how cases are counted. For example, 34 of the 37 states with capital punishment statutes make provision for the automatic review of death sentences, usually by the COLR. The number of mandatory filings that result is currently small—299 prisoners were received from the courts under sentence of death during 1987—but the provision for automatic appeal is one of many statutory or procedural factors that affect a state's filing rate.[11] The method of count also affects the filing rate. For example, appeals in the California appellate courts are counted at the filing of the trial record, rather than the notice of appeal, a point by which some appeals have been closed and, therefore, not counted. Other states with low filing rates—Massachusetts, North Carolina, and South Carolina (COLR only)—base their count on documents filed after the notice of appeal.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR MANDATORY APPEALS IN 1987. Appellate courts that disposed of more cases during 1987 than were filed with the courts in that year reduced their pending caseloads. The cases disposed of during 1987 could have been filed in previous years. A clearance rate is simply the number of cases disposed divided by the number of cases filed, and multiplied by 100 to express the difference as a percentage. Text Table 1 abstracts the relevant information from Table 3, Part II (p. 66) to present a clearance rate for each state, each COLR, and each IAC. States are listed from the lowest to highest statewide appellate clearance rate.

A clearance rate could be calculated for 30 states and the District of Columbia. For nine other states, a clearance rate could be obtained for the IAC but not for the COLR and is included in Text Table 1.

At the state level, clearance rates range from 81 percent in Nebraska to 134 percent in New York. Twelve states and the District of Columbia disposed of more mandatory appellate cases in 1987 than were filed, thus reducing their pending caseload. The remaining states, to varying degrees, were accumulating larger pending caseloads to carry into 1988.

There is no pattern linking high clearance rates to particular appellate structures. However, COLRs are slightly more likely than IACs to report clearance rates of greater than 100 percent: 12 of the 30 COLRs with mandatory jurisdiction and 12 of the 31 IACs in Text Table 1 reduced the size of their pending caseload. Because IACs tend to have larger mandatory caseloads than COLRs, their success in processing cases is likely to dominate the overall state clearance rate. For example, the COLR in New York reported a clearance rate of 90.2 percent, but the combined clearance rate for the two IACs of 136 percent left the state with the highest overall clearance rate in 1987 (134 percent). Overall, most states succeeded in disposing of more cases during 1987 than were filed. That success was certainly facilitated by the sharp decline in the number of mandatory filings during 1987 from the 1986 level.

TEXT TABLE 1: Appellate Court Clearance Rates for Mandatory Appeals, 1987

State	State Total	Court of Last Resort	Intermediate Appellate Court
Nebraska	80.6%	80.6%	
Alaska	86.0%	79.1%	91.5%
Kentucky	87.0%	103.8%	85.6%
Louisiana	88.0%	91.1%	87.9%
Mississippi	93.3%	93.3%	
North Dakota	93.5%	93.5%	
Ohio	93.9%	90.1%	94.1%
Illinois	94.0%	97.9%	93.7%
Wyoming	94.4%	94.4%	
Hawaii	96.1%	94.0%	106.0%
Arizona	96.9%	74.1%	97.7%
Indiana	97.2%	93.9%	98.4%
Florida	97.9%	94.3%	98.1%
Minnesota	97.9%	84.7%	99.6%
Vermont	98.0%	98.0%	
Arkansas	99.4%	90.6%	103.6%
Texas	99.7%	99.9%	99.6%
Idaho	99.8%	102.1%	96.1%
Wisconsin	101.0%	NH	101.0%
Iowa	101.8%	107.6%	93.5%
New Jersey	102.3%	109.2%	102.0%
Alabama	102.4%	101.9%	102.5%
Maryland	102.7%	95.3%	103.7%
North Carolina	103.9%	106.1%	103.6%
Delaware	105.5%	105.5%	
District of Columbia	106.3%	106.3%	
Kansas	110.1%	155.6%	104.4%
Nevada	118.3%	118.3%	
Washington	119.1%	109.6%	119.5%
Rhode Island	124.5%	124.5%	
New York	134.4%	90.2%	136.0%
Oklahoma	—	N/A	78.2%
Colorado	—	N/A	83.0%
South Carolina	—	N/A	83.6%
Connecticut	—	N/A	94.1%
Georgia	—	N/A	94.7%
Tennessee	—	N/A	98.1%
Oregon	—	N/A	98.3%
Missouri	—	N/A	106.7%
California	—	N/A	106.9%

N/A = Not Available
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court
— = A calculation is inappropriate

Note: A blank space indicates that a state does not have an intermediate appellate court.

Source: Tables 2 and 3, Part II
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

Discretionary Appellate Caseloads in 1987

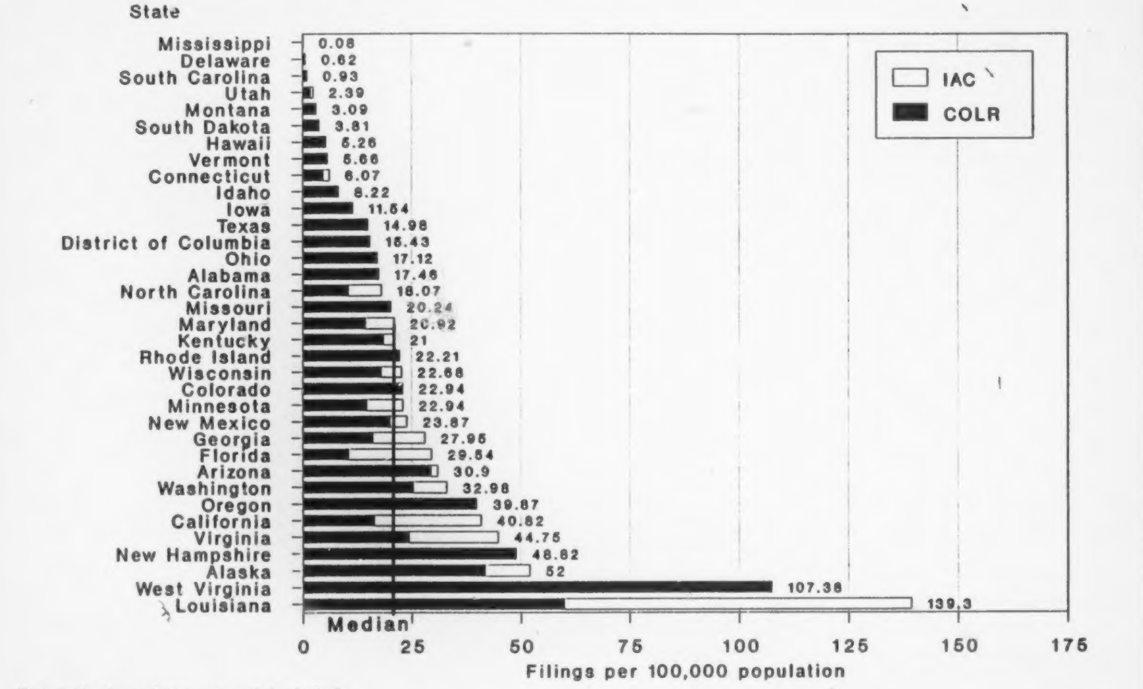
This section examines the 54,261 discretionary petitions that were filed in state appellate courts. More than two-thirds (69 percent) of those petitions were filed in a COLR.

In state courts, unlike the federal system, "appellate capacity at an intermediate level does not always spawn discretionary review at the top, as it did in the federal

---

[11] Lawrence Greenfield, *Capital Punishment 1987*, Washington, D.C.: Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 1988.

GRAPH 3: Discretionary Filings per 100,000 Population, 1987



The following states are not included:
AR, IL, IN, KS, MA, MI, MN, NE, NV•,
NJ, NY, ND•, OK, PA, TN, WY•.

• State does not have discretionary jurisdiction.

system."[12] State COLRs often retain substantial mandatory jurisdiction, and IACs are often created with discretionary jurisdiction. Thus, the division between the work of COLRs and IACs is perhaps not as clear in most states as it is in the federal appellate system.

Appellate courts vary in the procedures used to decide which petitions to accept for review. In 31 states, a decision to grant review in the COLR requires a majority of the members of the full court or of the panel, whichever is used to review petitions. In the remaining COLRs with discretionary jurisdiction, a minority—in several courts a single justice—of the members of the court or of a panel can grant a petition.

The following section considers the number of petitions filed per 100,000 state population, clearance rates for petitions, and the percentage of petitions that were granted.

DISCRETIONARY PETITIONS FILED. The number of petitions filed in each appellate court with discretionary jurisdiction can be found in Table 3, Part II (p. 66). Graph 3 summarizes that information for 34 states and the District of Columbia. The remaining states either lack discretionary jurisdiction or did not provide the relevant data for all court levels with discretionary jurisdiction.

The median filing rate is 21 per 100,000 population. Filing rates range from a low of less than one per 100,000 population in Mississippi (0.08) to a high of 139.3 per 100,000 population in Louisiana. Most filing rates, however, are less than 30 per 100,000 population. Louisiana, which allocates substantial discretionary jurisdiction to both its COLR and IAC, and West Virginia (107.4 per 100,000 population), a one-court appellate system without mandatory jurisdiction, stand far apart from other states in the magnitude of their discretionary petition caseloads.

There is no clear relationship between the size of mandatory and discretionary caseloads. Louisiana and Alaska are among the states with both the highest mandatory and discretionary filing rates. The District of Columbia, which had a mandatory filing rate substantially higher than any state, receives more petitions on a population-size adjusted basis than states such as Texas or Oklahoma. Some of the states at the low end of the range for discretionary filings simply lack significant jurisdiction for discretionary petitions. Connecticut, Mississippi, and South Carolina, however, have low filing rates for both mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions.

There is greater uniformity among the states in discretionary filing rates than for rates of mandatory appeals. States can be divided into four main categories: those with discretionary filing rates of less than 10 petitions per 100,000 population (10 states); those with filing rates between 10 and 20 petitions per 100,000 population (6); those with filing rates between 20 and 32 petitions per 100,000 population (11 states); and the remaining states (8). Louisiana and West Virginia should, perhaps, be considered separately. Their appellate courts recorded filing rates that are more than double those found in the state with the third-highest rate, Alaska (52 petitions per 100,000 population).

---

[12] Doris Marie Provine, "Certiorari," pp. 783-794 in R. Janosik (ed.), *Encyclopedia of the American Judicial Process,* New York: Scribners, p. 784.

IACs receive more discretionary petitions than the COLR in California, Florida, and Louisiana. A substantial proportion of all discretionary petitions were filed in the IACs of Georgia, Maryland, Minnesota, North Carolina, Virginia, and Washington. The filing rates in all of those states, except North Carolina, are above the median of 20 per 100,000 population.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR DISCRETIONARY PETITIONS. Text Table 2 provides information on discretionary petitions that were decided during 1987 as a percentage of those filed during the year (derived from Table 4, Part II, p. 72). Comparable filing and disposition data are available for 24 states and the District of Columbia. State clearance rates show less variation for discretionary petitions than was observed for mandatory appeals. The lowest rate is 84 percent, reported by Wisconsin, and the highest is 117 percent in Texas. Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Texas reduced the size of their pending caseload during 1987. The other 18 states and the District of Columbia reported clearance rates below 100 percent. In two states, as many petitions were disposed as were filed: Mississippi reported two cases disposed and two filed and Delaware four disposed and four filed (although the Delaware totals are incomplete).

Generally, pending discretionary caseloads were rising more rapidly than pending caseloads of mandatory appeals. The limited information in Text Table 2 suggests that the problem is more acute for IACs than for COLRs. Eight of 29 COLRs reported clearance rates above 100 percent; only two of 13 IACs could report similar clearance rates. The main feature of the 1987 data is the generally low clearance rates reported for discretionary petitions.

DISCRETIONARY PETITIONS GRANTED. The U.S. Supreme Court currently accepts for review about 5 percent of the discretionary petitions filed.[13] State COLRs tend to accept a larger percentage of petitions filed. During 1987, state COLRs granted 14.1 percent of the discretionary petitions filed.

That percentage is derived from Text Table 3, which shows the number of petitions filed and the number and the percentage granted for the COLRs of 22 states and the District of Columbia.

The percentages granted range from the low of 3 percent in Michigan to a high of 62 percent in Massachusetts. The Michigan Supreme Court has mandatory jurisdiction only in judicial discipline cases, with all appeals of right directed from the trial courts to the IAC. The court received 2,087 filings (five appeals and 2,082 petitions). It granted 60 of those petitions. The mandatory jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court is more broadly defined, including, for example, all sentences of life imprisonment for first-degree murder. The court received 72 appeals and 336 petitions, granting 208 of those petitions.

TEXT TABLE 2: Discretionary Petitions Decided as a Percentage of Petitions Filed, 1987

State	State Total	Court of Last Resort	Intermediate Appellate Court
Wisconsin	83.8%	83.4%	85.1%
Vermont	83.9%	83.9%	
Ohio	86.6%	86.6%	NH
New Hampshire	87.4%	87.4%	
Florida	87.6%	96.3%	82.3%
Maryland	90.2%	85.8%	100.0%
District of Columbia	90.6%	90.6%	
Alabama	91.7%	91.7%	NH
Minnesota	91.9%	88.7%	97.7%
Idaho	92.7%	92.7%	NH
West Virginia	93.7%	93.7%	
California	95.5%	87.9%	100.7%
Oregon	96.0%	96.0%	NH
North Carolina	96.6%	94.2%	100.0%
Iowa	96.9%	96.9%	NH
Louisiana	98.5%	99.5%	97.7%
Washington	98.9%	95.0%	112.1%
Kentucky	99.2%	101.9%	78.9%
Delaware	100.0%	100.0%	
Mississippi	100.0%	100.0%	
Hawaii	101.8%	101.8%	NH
Alaska	104.0%	105.5%	100.0%
Arizona	105.1%	105.9%	88.2%
Rhode Island	110.1%	110.1%	
Texas	116.6%	116.6%	NH
Virginia	—	81.1%	N/A
Illinois	—	97.6%	N/A
New Jersey	—	102.1%	N/A
Indiana	—	108.2%	N/A
Georgia	—	N/A	95.6%
Tennesee	—	N/A	100.0%

N/A = Not Available
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court
— = A calculation is inappropriate

Note: A blank space indicates that a state does not have an intermediate appellate court.

Source: Tables 2 and 4, Part II
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

The COLRs in the District of Columbia (4 percent), California (5 percent), Missouri (8 percent), Tennessee (8 percent), Illinois, New Jersey, and North Carolina (9 percent) granted fewer than one of every ten petitions filed. Unlike Michigan, other COLRs with primarily discretionary jurisdiction tended to grant a high proportion of petitions: West Virginia (39 percent) and Wisconsin (24 percent). Where an IAC has been established, the precise boundaries of its jurisdiction become important in understanding the flow of cases to the COLR and, probably, the percentage of petitions that are granted. For example, it appears that types of cases that would go to the IAC in Michigan would, if in Massachusetts, go to the COLR.

---

[13] Doris Marie Provine, "Certiorari," pp. 783-794 in R. Janosik (ed.), *Encyclopedia of the American Judicial Process*, New York: Scribners, p. 784.

TEXT TABLE 3: Discretionary Petitions Granted as a Percent of Total Discretionary Cases Filed in COLRs, 1987

State	Number of petitions filed	Number of petitions granted	Percentage of petitions granted
Alaska	219	36	16.4%
California	4,558	224	4.9%
District of Columbia	96	4	4.2%
Georgia	1,006	119	11.8%
Hawaii	57	10	17.5%
Illinois	1,673	152	9.1%
Louisiana	2,673	553	20.7%
Maryland	655	104	15.9%
Massachusetts	336	208	62.0%
Michigan	2,082	60	2.9%
Minnesota	626	104	16.6%
Missouri	1,033	79	7.7%
New Jersey	1,382	119	8.6%
New Mexico	301	45	15.0%
North Carolina	676	60	8.9%
Ohio	1,846	194	10.5%
Oregon	1,086	137	12.6%
Pennsylvania	1,936	237	12.2%
Tennessee	758	64	8.4%
Virginia	1,441	156	10.8%
Wisconsin	869	206	23.7%
West Virginia	2,037	785	38.5%
Texas	2,515	545	21.7%

Source: Tables 2, 4, and 5, Part II
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

TEXT TABLE 4: Mandatory Appeals Filed and Discretionary Petitions Granted in 1987 per 100,000 Population

Appellate Structure/State	
States with one COLR and one IAC	
North Carolina	24.6
South Carolina	28.7
California	40.1
Maryland	45.7
Minnesota	56.0
Kansas	59.9
Missouri	63.2
Hawaii	70.2
New Jersey	87.3
Ohio	98.3
New Mexico	116.2
Louisiana	126.3
Oregon	169.5
States with no IAC	
West Virginia	41.1
North Dakota	56.8
Delaware	61.6
Wyoming	65.3
Nevada	85.0
District of Columbia	241.8
States with multiple COLRs	
Texas	64.7
Oklahoma	95.8

Source: Tables 2, 3, and 5, Part II
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

The two Texas COLRs, one for civil and one for criminal cases, granted 22 percent of the total discretionary petitions filed. The Texas Supreme Court (which hears appeals on civil matters) received three mandatory appeals and 1,176 discretionary petitions, granting 15.1 percent of the petitions. The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals processed 2,450 mandatory appeals and 1,339 discretionary petitions, granting 27.4 percent of the petitions. The Texas IAC has exclusively mandatory jurisdiction, which resulted in 7,857 filings. These caseload statistics are taken from Table 2, Part II (p. 54) and the jurisdictional information from the court structure charts in Part III.

IACs with discretionary jurisdiction tend to grant a higher percentage of petitions than is the practice in their state COLR or in COLRs generally. Table 2, Part II (p. 54) provides information on the percentage of discretionary petitions granted in eight IACs: California Courts of Appeal, 8.2 percent; Louisiana Courts of Appeal, 31.1 percent; Maryland Court of Special Appeals, 6.8 percent; Minnesota Court of Appeals, 31.3 percent; New Mexico Court of Appeals, 28.1 percent; North Carolina Court of Appeals, 14.7 percent; Tennessee Court of Appeals, 28.6 percent; and Virginia Court of Appeals, 21.6 percent. With the exception of Maryland, the IAC grants a higher percentage of discretionary petitions filed than does the state COLR.

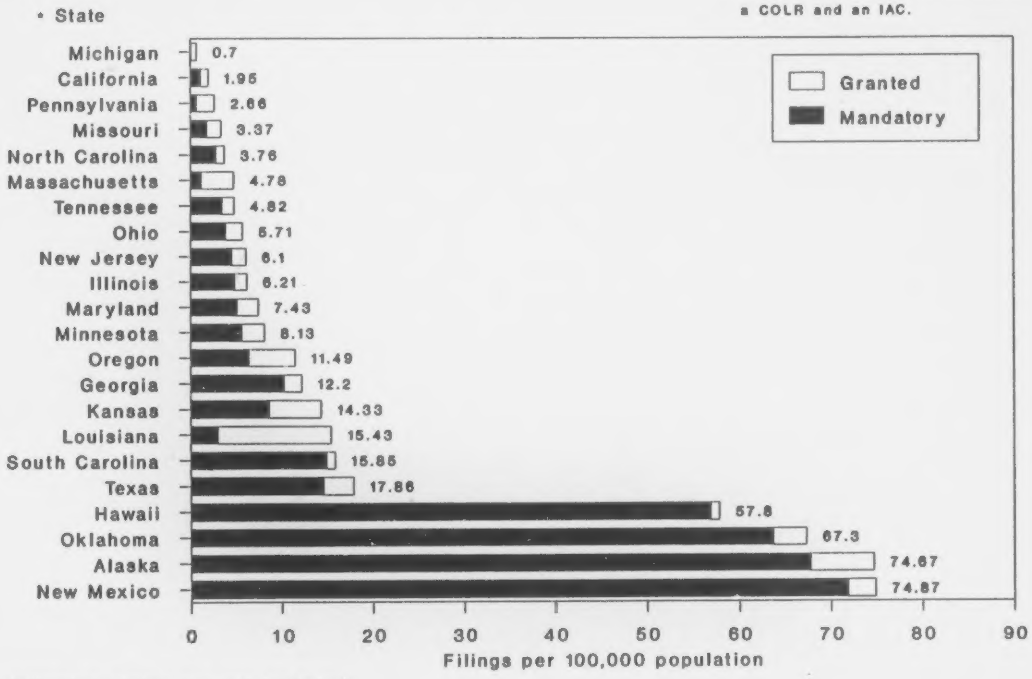
Discretionary jurisdiction clearly enables courts to control their dockets. Generally, courts are selective in the petitions that are granted. The use of discretion, however, is exercised very differently among the states. IACs also exercise discretionary power differently than COLRs, reflecting their respective roles in state appellate systems and, perhaps, the capacity of IACs to expand the number of authorized judgeships in the face of rising caseloads.

Mandatory Appeals and Petitions Granted in 1987

Appellate courts decide two types of cases: mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions that have been granted. Courts differ in the process through which discretionary petitions are reviewed, resulting in varying workload implications for the court and its justices. Therefore, the most comparable and perhaps most important index of the work carried out by state appellate courts in 1987 is the total number of mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions granted. This is the pool of cases that the courts will decide on the merits.

The number of relevant cases can be calculated from all of the appellate courts in 20 states and the District of Columbia using information in Table 5, Part II (p. 77). Text Table 4 displays that number as filings per 100,000 popu-

GRAPH 4: Mandatory Filings and Petitions Granted/100,000 Pop. in COLRs, 1987



* Graph displays only those states with a COLR and an IAC.

The following states are not included:
AL, AZ, AR, CO, CN, FL, ID, IN, IA, KY, NY, UT, VA, WI.

lation of mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions that were subsequently granted, grouping states according to their appellate court structures. The filing rates range from 24.6 in North Carolina to 169.5 in Oregon for states with one COLR and one IAC. Most of the filings in Louisiana and Oregon were in the IAC. However, New Mexico, with the third-highest filing rate, received the majority of filings in the COLR (64 percent of the total). The 1987 filing rates parallel those found for 1986 (Table 1.4, p. 11, *State Court Caseload Statistics: 1986 Annual Report)*. In particular, filings in the District of Columbia Court of Appeals far exceed the level found in most states. State filing rates do not, however, appear to reflect the type of appellate court structure a state has adopted.

The ranking of states essentially parallels that found for the rate of mandatory appeals per 100,000 population (see Graph 2). The Louisiana appellate courts, however, move ahead of Ohio and New Mexico when both granted petitions and mandatory appeals are used to calculate the rate of appeals. Compared to the appellate systems of the latter two states, Louisiana's courts both receive a large proportion of their total filings as discretionary petitions and grant a high percentage (27 percent) of the petitions filed.

Graph 4 focuses on the COLRs in states with at least one IAC. Filings that will be decided on the merits range from less than one per 100,000 population in Michigan to 75 per 100,000 in New Mexico. Granted petitions constitute the majority of cases decided by the COLRs of Louisiana, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania. In California and Missouri, the number of appeals and the number of granted petitions are nearly equivalent.

Caseloads are presented in this commentary as filings per 100,000 population. While facilitating comparisons among the states, it is not the measure of greatest weight for the justices or clerks of those courts. Rates based on filings per justice/judge, presented in Tables 2-5, Part II, are perhaps more responsive to the immediate concerns of those working in appellate courts. The next subsection examines a particular aspect of appellate court workload: written opinions.

Appellate Court Opinions in 1987

The preparation of full written opinions "has been called the single most time-consuming task in the appellate process."[14] Rising appellate caseloads have led to both curtailment of the use of full opinions to decide cases and concern over the availability of sufficient judicial time to prepare full opinions in important cases.

Table 6, Part II (p. 81) presents the number of opinions published by state appellate courts during 1987. The table also provides supplementary information that describes whether the count is by case or by written document and whether majority opinions, per curiam opinions, and memorandums/orders are included in the count. Information is also provided on the number of justices or judges serving on each court and the number of support staff with legal training that the court employs. The number of justices or judges is particularly significant, as appellate courts, and especially IACs, vary greatly in size. COLRs vary from three (the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals) to nine justices (the Alabama Supreme Court, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, the Iowa Supreme Court, the Mississippi Supreme Court, the Texas Supreme Court, and the Washington Supreme Court). IACs range in size from three judges (in Alabama, Alaska, Hawaii, and Idaho) to the 80-judge Texas Courts of Appeals.

---

[14] American Bar Association, Judicial Administration Division, *Standards Relating to Appellate Delay Reduction*, Chicago: American Bar Association, 1988, p. 21.

The number of written opinions is not directly related to the number of cases decided by the court on the merits during 1987. Among COLRs, the range is from the 61 cases decided by written majority opinions in Delaware to 688 majority and per curiam opinions in Alabama. The restricted size of COLRs and the nature of their responsibilities tend to limit the number of written opinions to several hundred in a year (the U.S. Supreme Court typically decides about 150 cases a year by opinion).[15] Generally, courts can determine how they decide cases, whether by full explanatory opinion or by order, and thus control their workload.

IACs vary considerably in the number of written opinions published during 1987. The highest number was reported by the California Courts of Appeal: 8,977 (compared to the 85 written opinions reported by the California Supreme Court). The IACs in Florida, Michigan, Ohio, and Texas reported more than 4,000 written opinions. Those opinions, however, will not typically be of the same length as those prepared by state COLRs.

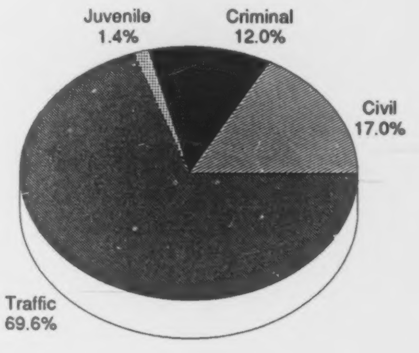
Appellate Courts in 1987: A Summary

Nationally, there were 3.9 percent more appellate filings in 1987 than in 1986. Of course, this does not mean that filings in all courts increased; rather, more COLRs and IACs reported increases than reported decreases. The general increase, which is measured based on courts reporting comparable data in the two years, should be viewed in the context of increasing appellate caseloads over the past three decades.

The combined state court appellate filings in 1987 consisted of 12 percent mandatory appeals to COLRs, 18 percent discretionary petitions to COLRs, 63 percent mandatory appeals to IACs, and 8 percent discretionary petitions to IACs.

Most two-tier appellate systems conformed to the pattern in which the COLR controls its docket through discretionary jurisdiction and most mandatory appeals are heard in an IAC. There are a number of states to which that pattern does not apply. In some states, the COLR continues to hear and decide most of the filings, often in the form of mandatory appeals. The IACs in these and other states have been allocated significant discretionary jurisdiction.

CHART 2: Trial Court Filings, 1987



Total=94,271,941

The rate at which appeals are filed per 100,000 population varies substantially among the states. When mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions are examined separately, however, there is a large middle ground of states with broadly similar filing rates. Differences in appellate procedure and jurisdiction are shown in the varying percentages by which courts grant discretionary petitions. Generally, IACs grant a higher percentage of petitions than do COLRs, but information on the number of petitions granted is not made available by most appellate courts.

Appellate courts in most states disposed of more cases in 1987 than were filed during the year. A case disposed of in 1987 could, of course, have originated in a filing several years previously. The increase in filings recorded during 1987 enhances the generally favorable picture of appellate courts that are reducing their pending caseload. There are also, however, a number of appellate courts that report clearance rates, especially for discretionary petitions, of substantially less than 100 percent. Those courts accumulated a larger pending caseload during 1987, and those cases must be heard and decided more expeditiously in 1988 or subsequent years if these courts are to remain current.

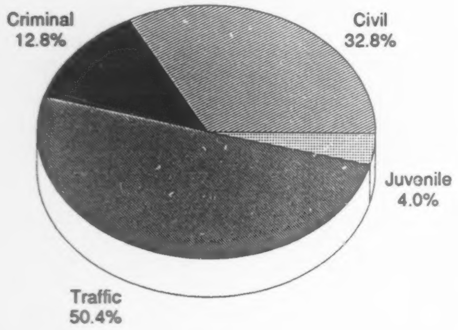
Trial Court Caseloads in 1987

States reported 94,271,941 trial court filings for 1987. That total is formed by 16,027,139 civil cases, 11,271,768 criminal cases, 1,338,737 juvenile cases, and 65,634,297 traffic and other ordinance violation cases. Chart 2 displays filings for each casetype as a proportion of the total. Civil filings represented 17 percent of the total, criminal filings 12 percent, and juvenile filings 1.4 percent. Although more than two-thirds of the total (69.6 percent) consist of traffic/other ordinance violation cases, the focus here is on civil, criminal, and juvenile trial court caseloads because of their demands on court resources.

---

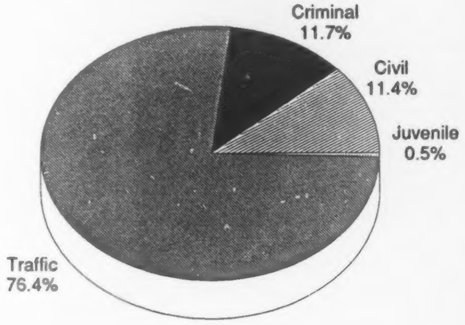
[15] The U.S. Supreme Court disposed of 151 cases by signed opinion (139 consolidated opinions) and nine cases by per curiam opinion (statistics supplied by the Office of the Clerk, Supreme Court of the United States).

CHART 3: Trial Court Filings in General Jurisdiction Courts, 1987



Total=24,531,414

CHART 4: Trial Court Filings in Limited Jurisdiction Courts, 1987



Total=69,740,527

There were more civil and criminal trial court case filings in 1987 than in 1986. When the comparisons are restricted to courts that reported relevant data in both 1986 and 1987, the following changes are found. Civil filings in general jurisdiction courts increased by 1.1 percent and civil filings in limited jurisdiction courts by 4.2 percent. Criminal filings in general jurisdiction courts increased by 5.8 percent and criminal filings in limited jurisdiction courts by 4.1 percent. Those increases coincided with a 3.9 percent increase in the number of appellate court filings.

As a national total, the 94 million cases reported are seriously incomplete. The deficiency is mainly in the reported traffic/other ordinance violation filings. Only 15 states and the District of Columbia reported complete (although at times overinclusive) data on their traffic/other violation caseloads. Generally, problems of comparability and completeness are more serious for trial court than for appellate court caseload statistics. Mississippi and Nevada did not report trial court caseload data.[16]

The completeness of civil and criminal caseload data from the other 48 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico is outlined in Table 7, Part II (p. 85). Other tables in Part II display the number of case filings and case dispositions for the four main trial court casetypes, noting instances where court statistics are incomplete, overinclusive, or simultaneously incomplete and overinclusive: total civil caseloads, Table 9; total criminal caseloads, Table 10; total traffic/other ordinance violation caseloads, Table 11; and total juvenile caseloads, Table 12. The sum of all four casetypes, by court and by state, is presented in Table 8.

This commentary focuses on civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. As with the section commenting on appellate caseloads, the main casetypes structure the presentation. The discussion of civil, criminal, and juvenile cases includes consideration of filing rates per 100,000 population, the relative use of general and limited jurisdiction courts, and clearance rates.

Trial Courts of General and Limited Jurisdiction

General jurisdiction courts are major courts of record from which there is a right of appeal to the state IAC or COLR. Forty-four states in 1987 also had a lower trial court level consisting of courts of limited jurisdiction. Variously called municipal, district justice, justice of the peace, or magistrate courts, limited jurisdiction courts are usually restricted in the range of cases that they can decide.

There were an estimated 2,253 courts of general jurisdiction and 13,231 courts of limited jurisdiction in 1987. Case filings in those courts were heard by 8,859 judges of general jurisdiction courts and 18,721 magistrates, district justices, and justices of the peace of limited jurisdiction courts (Figure G, Part IV, p. 222).

Of the reported total of 94,271,941 court filings, 24,531,414 were in general jurisdiction courts, 25.9 percent of the total. Despite the incompleteness of the data from many states, the respective roles of general and limited jurisdiction courts emerge from a comparison of the composition of their 1987 filings.

Chart 3 summarizes the general jurisdiction court filings for 1987. Civil case filings represented nearly one-third of the total caseload (32.8 percent), criminal case filings one-eighth (12.8 percent), and juvenile cases, 4.0 percent. Traffic/other violation cases represented the remaining 50.4 percent of all filings.

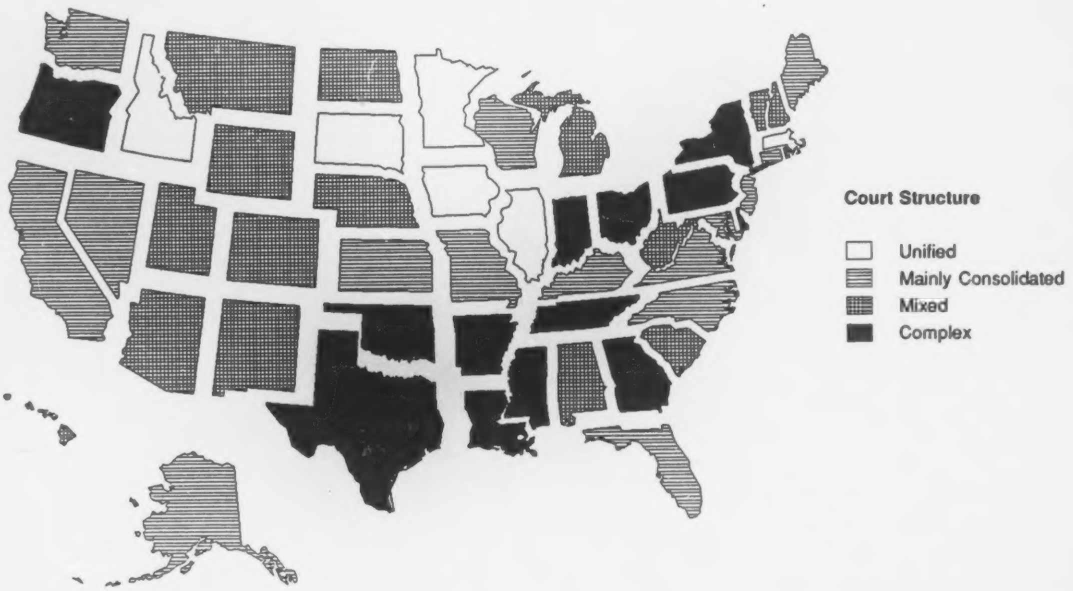
Chart 4 divides the total limited jurisdiction court caseload into the four main casetypes. Civil cases accounted for 11.4 percent and criminal cases 11.7 percent of the total filings, with juvenile filings representing 0.5 percent. The remaining three-fourths of the filings were traffic/ordinance violation cases.

The percentage of shares derived from the national caseload should be viewed with caution. In particular, the actual role of the general jurisdiction court is obscured. The

---

[16] Kentucky trial court data for 1987 consists of case filings and dispositions during a 10-month period, July 1, 1986-April 30, 1987.

MAP 3: Trial Court Structures, 1987



national data combine states that only have a general jurisdiction trial court with states that have a second trial court level. The national total also merges data from states that hear juvenile cases in their general jurisdiction courts with data from states that have established a court of specialized (limited) jurisdiction for that purpose.

By focusing on states with a two-tier trial court system and ignoring traffic and ordinance violations cases, it is possible to see the composition of general jurisdiction court caseloads more clearly. First, where juvenile cases are heard exclusively in the general jurisdiction court, the composition of case filings in 1987 was 71.6 percent civil, 17.1 percent criminal, and 11.4 percent juvenile.[17] Second, where juvenile cases are heard in courts of special jurisdiction, the 1987 case filings were 68.5 percent civil and 31.5 percent criminal.[18] Whether a case is filed in the general jurisdiction or in the special juvenile court often is determined solely by the age of the defendant, based on statute provisions that vary among the states and are discussed in the subsection on juvenile filings.

State trial court systems are nearly as diverse as appellate court systems in their structure and division of jurisdiction among courts and between the two levels of courts. Before examining and comparing state filing data and clearance rates, it is useful to highlight some important dimensions on which state trial court systems differ.

The conventional wisdom of court reform is based on the virtues of consolidation. In trial courts, this is manifest in the move toward uniform and simple jurisdiction. Uniform jurisdiction means that all trial courts at each level have identical jurisdiction to decide cases. Simple jurisdiction means that the allocation of subject matter jurisdiction does not overlap between levels.[19]

In six states and the District of Columbia, consolidation has resulted in a single trial court that has jurisdiction over all cases and proceedings. The other 44 states have a two-tier trial court system but differ in the degree to which jurisdiction is allocated in a uniform and simple manner. Differences in court structure are often important in understanding the comparability and completeness of caseload data from a state. Map 3 summarizes the differences present in court structure during 1987. Four court structures are differentiated:

(1) Six states (Idaho, Iowa, Illinois, Massachusetts, Minnesota, and South Dakota) and the District of Columbia have unified all trial courts.

(2) Fifteen states with two court levels, but in which all limited jurisdiction courts have uniform jurisdiction.

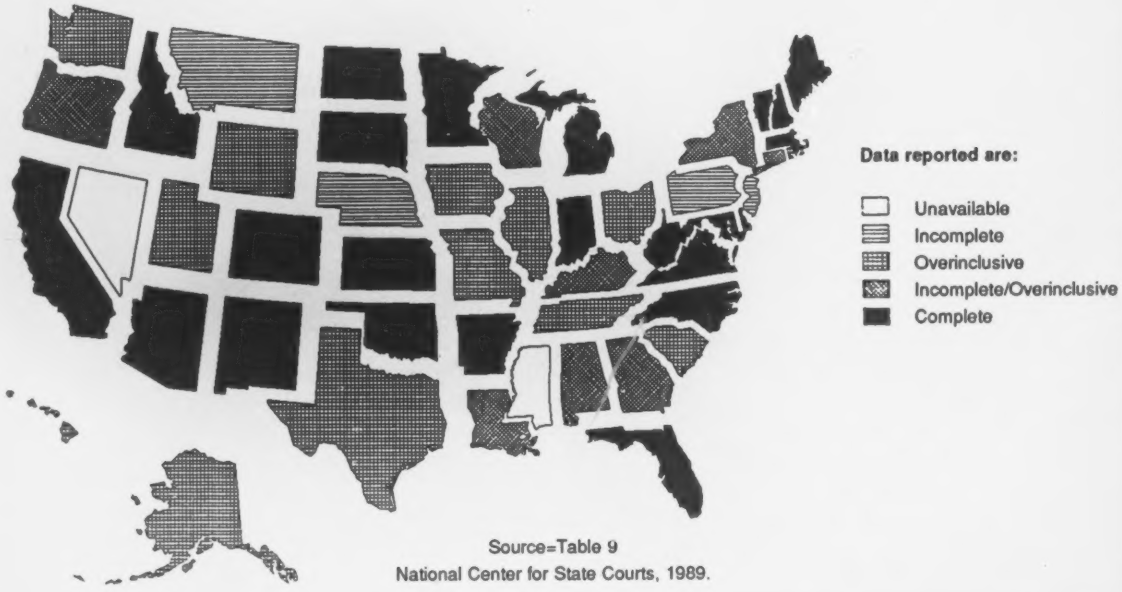
---

[17] This is based on data from four states: Arizona, California, Florida, and New Mexico. Percentages were derived by combining unweighted case filings.

[18] This is based on data from three states: Arkansas, Michigan, and North Carolina. Percentages were derived by combining unweighted case filings.

[19] The "conventional wisdom" is that articulated by the American Bar Association in its *Standards Relating to Court Organization*, Chicago: American Bar Association, 1974, pp. 1-10.

MAP 4: Comparability of Civil Filing Data in General Jurisdiction Courts, 1987



Source=Table 9
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

(3) Sixteen states with two court levels that overlap in their jurisdiction.

(4) Thirteen states in which there are several general jurisdiction courts and/or a multiplicity of limited jurisdiction courts that overlap in jurisdiction both with courts at the same level and with courts at the general jurisdiction level.[20]

Reference to the court structure charts in Part III of the report should indicate the difference in the degree of complexity that distinguishes the four types of court structures just outlined.

The remainder of this section considers, in turn, filings of civil, criminal, and juvenile cases. The main conclusions are summarized at the end of the section.

Civil Filings in 1987

States reported 16,027,139 civil cases filed in 1987. A civil case is a request for the enforcement or protection of a right, or the redress or prevention of a wrong. To meet the definition recommended by the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*, the category includes all torts, contracts, real property rights, small claims, domestic relations, mental health, and estate cases over which courts have jurisdiction. It also includes all appeals of administrative agency decisions filed in the courts and appeals of decisions of limited jurisdiction trial courts in civil cases to general jurisdiction courts. A review of the footnotes to Table 9, Part II (p. 100) indicates the degree to which states report data conforming to the recommended definition. Map 4 summarizes the information of the footnotes as to the general jurisdiction court filing data from each state.

Graph 5 displays the total civil case filings in 33 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The range is from 3,432 filings per 100,000 population in Puerto Rico to 23,085 in the District of Columbia. Connecticut has the median filing rate of 6,338. Most states report filing rates clustered near the median. Hawaii, with 4,497 filings per 100,000 population, has a rate that is 29 percent lower than the median. At the top of the range, Virginia reports a filing rate that is 2.6 times greater than the median. But Virginia and the District of Columbia clearly stand apart from the other jurisdictions included in the graph. Delaware, with the third-highest filing rate, reported 10,236 filings per 100,000 population—62 percent above the median.

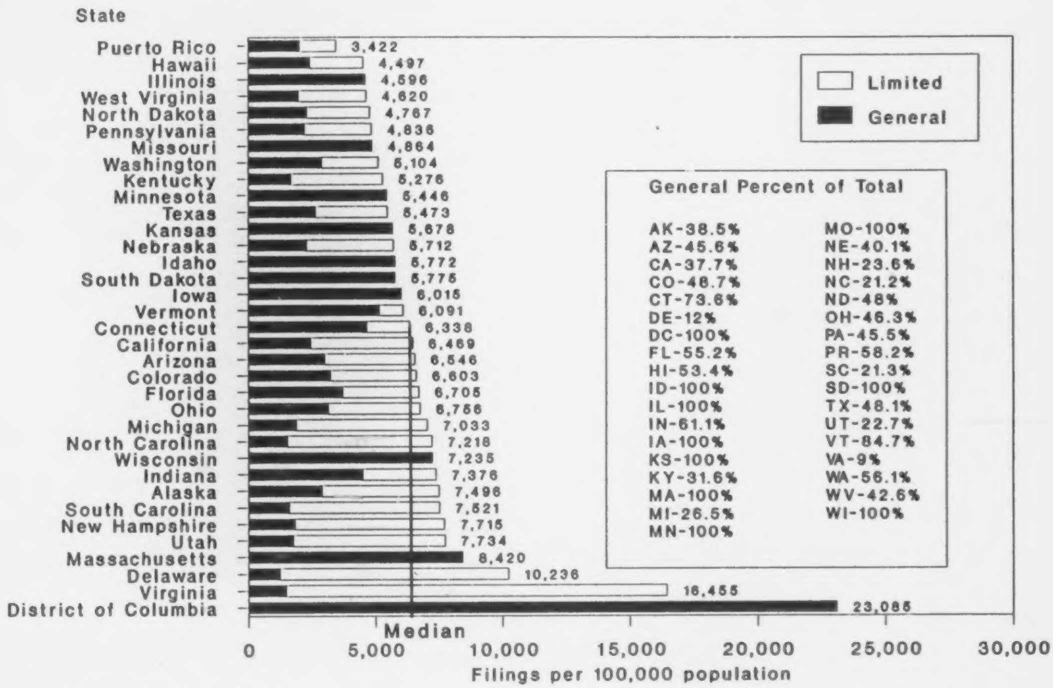
Reported civil caseloads are affected by the point at which filings are counted, whether reopened cases are treated as new filings, and the manner in which support/custody proceedings are incorporated into court statistics on marriage dissolution cases. Figure H, Part IV (p. 225) details the method by which each court counts civil cases, and Figure I, Part IV (p. 231) details the method by which support/custody cases are counted.

Different approaches to counting civil, and especially support/custody, caseloads may influence the ranking of

---

[20] States are assigned to categories based on information contained in David Rottman, Robert Roper, and Dixie Knoebel, *State Court Organization 1987*, Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1988. An earlier typology of state court systems based on the number of courts and the allocation of jurisdiction among the courts can be found in Henry R. Glick, "State Court Systems," pp. 862-700 in R. Janosik (ed.), *The Encyclopedia of the American Judicial System*, New York: Scribners, 1987, p. 688.

GRAPH 5: Civil Filings per 100,000 Population in State Trial Courts, 1987



The following states are not included:
AL, AR, GA, LA, ME, MD, MS, MT, NV, NJ, NM, NY, OK, OR, RI, TN, WY.

states in Graph 5. The limited jurisdiction court in Virginia, the district court, regards all reopened civil cases as new filings, counts support/custody proceedings as separate filings, and enters changes to a marriage decree as a case commenced. Most states, and the general jurisdiction court in Virginia (the circuit court), do not count reopened civil cases as new filings and count support/custody proceedings as part of the original marriage dissolution filing, unless they involve issues that arise at a later point in time or as a postdecree action. Since the method of count varies between the general and limited jurisdiction courts in Virginia, the allocation of subject matter jurisdiction may also be relevant. The Virginia circuit court has exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction with the exception of support/custody cases, which can be heard in the district court. Thus, the relatively high rate of civil filings in Virginia, and the atypical concentration of civil cases in the limited jurisdiction court, is attributable, in part, to choices made when designing court recordkeeping procedures.

Courts hearing support/custody cases in Florida, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming also count cases in a way that inflates their total civil filing rate relative to other states. This may alter somewhat the ranking of states from what would be found if a uniform method of counting cases existed, but there is no indication that the impact would be dramatic.

Differences in counting practices may affect the relative share of the civil caseload heard in courts of general and limited jurisdiction in a state, as was noted for Virginia. Differences in the allocation of subject matter jurisdiction are more likely explanations for why the flow of case filings is mainly toward one court level. Delaware, for example, has five separate limited jurisdiction courts with authority to hear civil cases, including the family court, which has exclusive jurisdiction over domestic relations cases. Fewer than one of every eight civil cases in Delaware is filed in one of the state's two general jurisdiction court systems. Most of the states with high total civil filing rates have allocated substantial relevant subject matter jurisdiction to lower level courts. Massachusetts, with a unified trial court system, is the exception; it has the fourth-highest state filing rate: 8,420 per 100,000 population.

There is little evidence to connect the size of the civil court filing rate in a state to the appellate filing rate. The District of Columbia is the only jurisdiction to report high levels for both rates. With the possible exception of Alaska, other states with high appellate rates are found at all points in the ranking of states based on civil trial court filings. However, Massachusetts has the second-*lowest* appellate filing rate and the fourth-*highest* civil trial court filing rate.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR CIVIL CASES IN 1987. Trial courts that disposed of more civil cases during 1987

TEXT TABLE 5: Trial Court Clearance Rates for Civil Cases, 1987

State	Total	General	Limited
Utah	70.9%	136.8%	51.5%
California	75.3%	76.2%	74.7%
Alaska	83.9%	96.6%	76.0%
Washington	84.4%	85.3%	82.6%
Florida	89.1%	87.8%	90.7%
Kentucky	92.6%	98.2%	90.4%
Hawaii	92.9%	95.4%	90.0%
Delaware	93.8%	79.8%	95.7%
Arizona	93.8%	94.4%	93.3%
North Dakota	94.4%	95.8%	93.1%
Texas	95.1%	99.4%	91.0%
North Carolina	95.3%	91.4%	96.3%
Illinois	96.1%	96.1%	
Colorado	97.2%	97.7%	96.7%
Ohio	97.4%	98.3%	96.7%
Puerto Rico	98.1%	98.1%	98.2%
Vermont	98.7%	100.3%	89.8%
Virginia	98.9%	89.7%	99.8%
Kansas	99.3%	99.3%	NH
Wisconsin	99.8%	99.8%	NH
Indiana	100.2%	101.9%	97.7%
Nebraska	100.5%	102.9%	98.9%
Minnesota	100.6%	100.6%	
District of Columbia	101.0%	101.0%	
South Carolina	101.0%	101.0%	101.0%
Idaho	101.9%	101.9%	
West Virginia	102.9%	110.5%	97.3%
New York	—	76.0%	N/A
Maryland	—	80.0%	N/A
Montana	—	84.5%	N/A
Tennessee	—	89.9%	N/A
Oklahoma	—	90.5%	N/A
New Mexico	—	95.1%	N/A
Alabama	—	95.9%	N/A
New Hampshire	—	96.4%	N/A
Pennsylvania	—	96.6%	N/A
Rhode Island	—	97.6%	N/A
Arkansas	—	97.6%	N/A
New Jersey	—	99.7%	N/A
Georgia	—	100.2%	N/A
South Carolina	—	101.0%	N/A
Maine	—	101.1%	N/A
Michigan	—	107.1%	N/A

N/A = Not Available
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court.
— = A calculation is inappropriate.

Note: A blank space indicates that a state does not have a limited jurisdiction court.

Source: Table 8 and 9, Part II
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

(cases that may have been filed in previous years) than were filed reduced the size of their pending civil caseload. Text Table 5 abstracts the relevant information from Table 9, Part II (p. 100) to present a clearance rate for each state, for the general jurisdiction courts in that state, and for the limited jurisdiction courts, if any, with the authority to hear civil cases. States are listed from the lowest to highest statewide civil clearance rate.

Full information is available for 25 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Clearance rates could be calculated for the general but not the limited jurisdiction courts of another 16 states. Most states ended 1987 with a larger pending caseload than had been present at the start of the reporting year. Only six states (Idaho, Indiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, South Carolina, and West Virginia) and the District of Columbia reported clearance rates of greater than 100 percent. The highest statewide clearance rate was 102.9 percent; thus, no state was significantly reducing its pending caseload. In the other 20 states, clearance rates ranged from a low of 70.9 percent in Utah and 75.3 percent in California to slightly below 100 percent in Wisconsin.

The low clearance rates reported by Alaska and Utah at the state level are attributable to the limited jurisdiction courts. The Utah District Court had the highest clearance rate of any general jurisdiction court—136.8 percent—but its caseload was combined with a limited jurisdiction court that disposed of one-half as many cases in 1987 as were filed. The general jurisdiction court in Alaska also reported a far higher clearance rate than did the limited jurisdiction courts in the state. By contrast, both trial court levels in California reported low clearance rates, a situation that may have changed in 1988 with increased statewide attention to case management and delay reduction.

Alaska, California, and Utah essentially repeated the clearance rates they reported for 1986. The District of Columbia, Idaho, Nebraska, and West Virginia reported clearance rates of over 100 percent in both 1986 and 1987, while Indiana and Minnesota did not.

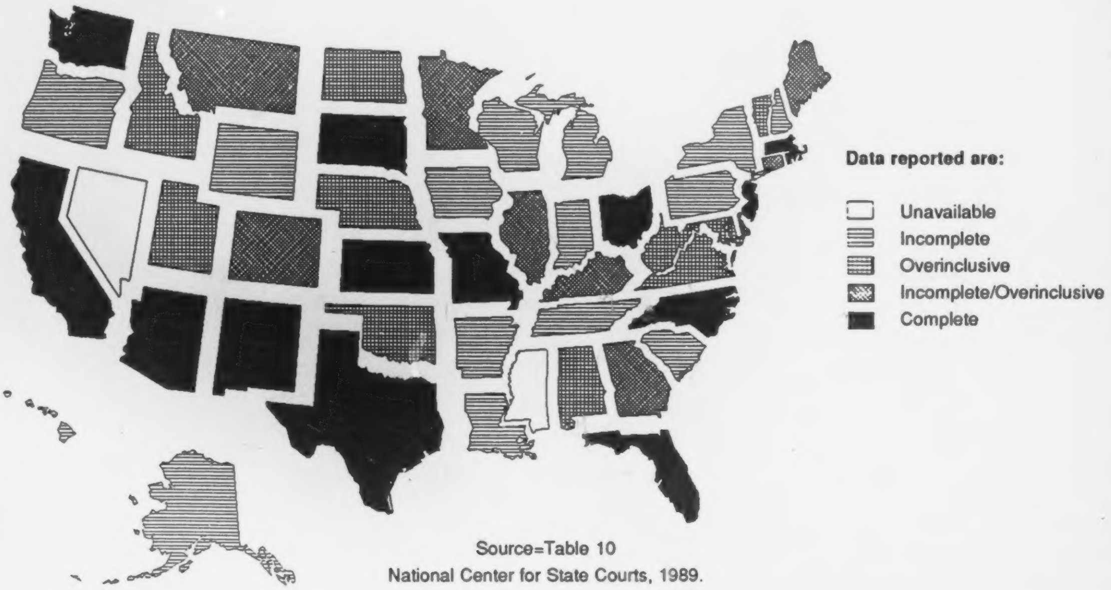
Overall, trial courts failed to keep pace with the flow of new case filings. Clearance rates could be calculated for the general jurisdiction courts of 41 states. The courts of 29 of those states ended 1987 with a larger pending caseload than had been present at the start of the year. Clearance rates could be calculated for the limited jurisdiction courts of 21 states. The courts of 20 of those states accumulated larger pending caseloads during the course of 1987, suggesting the need for serious concern and corrective action.

Criminal Filings in 1987

States reported 11,271,768 new criminal case filings in 1987, 28.9 percent in courts of general jurisdiction. Case filing data from Mississippi and Nevada are not available for 1987, and the caseload data reported by courts in many states either include other casetypes, particularly ordinance violations, or omit casetypes that should be included, particularly DWI/DUI cases. Map 5 summarizes the impact this has on the general jurisdiction court data reported by each state.

The *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* defines a criminal case as one in which a defendant is charged with the violation of a state law. Subcategories of criminal cases include felonies, misdemeanors, DWI/DUI, and appeals of trial court cases. Felonies that can be tried to completion in the court in which they are filed are distinguished from felony cases that must be bound over for trial to another court. Limited jurisdiction courts in most states hold preliminary hearings for felony cases and, in 26 states, can dismiss a felony case; however, such courts can sentence convicted felons in only seven states (Alabama, Indiana,

MAP 5: Comparability of Criminal Filing Data in General Jurisdiction Courts, 1987



Source=Table 10
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

Maine, Maryland, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and South Carolina).[21] Filings of felony cases in limited jurisdiction courts for the purpose of conducting preliminary hearings are not added to the state criminal caseload if the result is a defendant being bound over for trial in another court. Such cases are, thus, only counted once—as a filing in the court of general jurisdiction.

Graph 6 displays the total criminal filings per 100,000 population for those states reporting data from all courts with relevant subject matter jurisdiction.[22] Thirty-six states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico are included. Reference to Table 10, Part II (p. 108) indicates why the remaining states were excluded and the extent to which the caseload for a state at either the general or limited jurisdiction level is incomplete or overinclusive.

The size of state criminal caseloads varies substantially. Rates per 100,000 population range from a low of 1,466 reported by Kansas to a high of 13,565 reported by Delaware; the same states defined the lower and upper bounds of the range in 1986. The ninefold difference from lowest to highest rate is in marked contrast to the consistency found for state civil filing rates.

The median filing rate is 4,736. One group of states reports levels close to the median: Connecticut, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Washington. Two clusters of states can be identified below and two above that group. The lowest cluster includes Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Puerto Rico. The second-lowest includes California, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

The second-highest cluster, immediately above the middle group of states, consists of Alaska, District of Columbia, Idaho, Maryland, Massachusetts, South Carolina, and Utah. Finally, Arizona, Delaware, New Mexico, North Carolina, Texas, and Virginia form a cluster of states that reported more than 8,000 filings per 100,000 population.

The ranking of states on Graph 6 is influenced by the unit of count and the point at which the count is taken in compiling court statistics. Figure D, Part IV (p. 205) describes and Table 10, Part II (p. 108) summarizes the practice in each court with jurisdiction to handle criminal cases. The unit of count is defined by (a) whether a case filing contains charges facing only an individual defendant or if two or more defendants can be included in one filing, and (b) whether the count is taken by charge or charging documents that contain one charge, one incident, or multiple incidents.

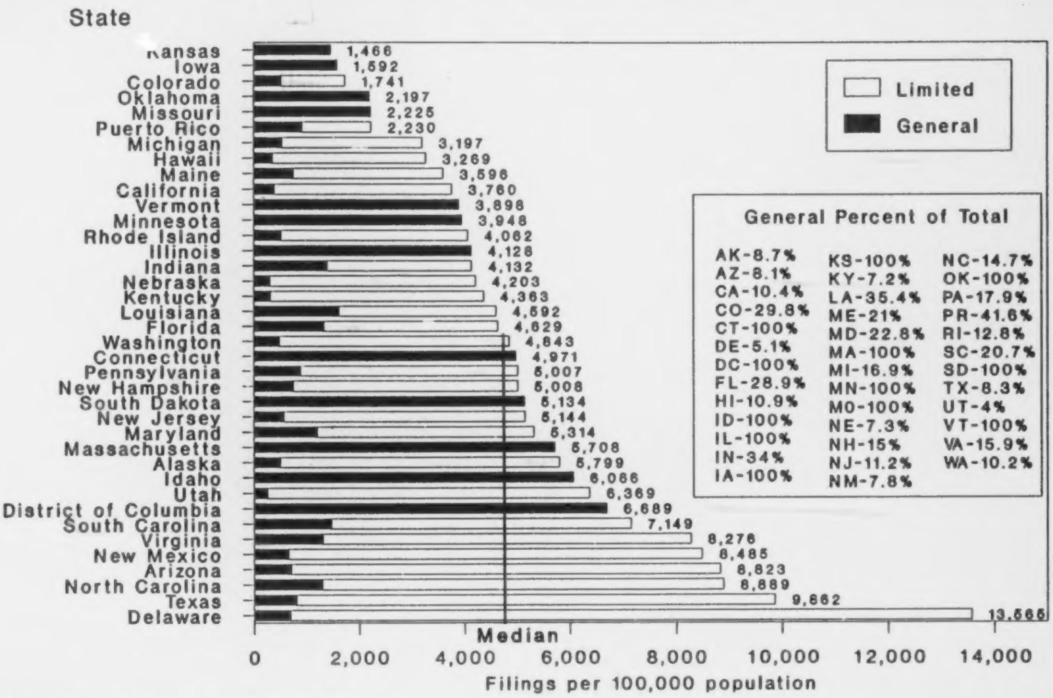
States and trial court systems within states have adopted different bases to count criminal cases. The impact of such variation is considerable. Some states take the count of filings at an early stage in the process, typically

---

[21] David Rottman, Robert Roper, Dixie Knoebel, *State Court Organization 1987*, Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1988, Table 16, pp.221-239.

[22] Filing rates in Table 10, Part II are computed on the basis of state adult population, the practice in previous caseload statistics reports. Graph 6, however, uses total population to derive filing rates, thus facilitating comparisons to the size and ranking of state civil filing rates.

GRAPH 6: Criminal Filings per 100,000 Population in State Trial Courts, 1987



The following states are not included:
AL, AR, GA, MS, MT, NV, NY, ND, OH, OR,
TN, WV, WI, WY.

the filing of a complaint, information, or indictment; other states only count a case as filed when the defendant enters a plea. The number of defendants per case and the number of charges per charging document will also greatly affect the number of cases reported as filed during a year.[23]

The rankings of some states require careful examination because of their unit of count and point of filing. The state with the lowest filing rate, Kansas, counts filings at the first appearance before the court by the defendant, a later point than that used by most states to count filings. Hawaii (in the district court) is the only other state following that practice; it, too, has a relatively low filing rate.

States with the highest filings tend to count each charge against each defendant as a separate filing: Arizona, Delaware, Texas, and Virginia. Other states following that practice tend to be found in the top half of the ranking; Hawaii is the exception, but its use of a later than typical point for taking the count compensates for the effect of basing the count on charges rather than incidents.

Thus, some of the variation found in Graph 6, perhaps a substantial amount, is attributable to the differences in how courts maintain statistical records, rather than to known differences among states in crime rates or in the propensity to prosecute.

There is little evidence linking the rate of criminal trial court filings in a state to the rate of appellate filings. Alaska, Arizona, and the District of Columbia report high rates of both appeals and trial court filings, while Massachusetts and North Carolina report relatively high rates of criminal filings and among the lowest rates of appeals. As with civil filings, the rankings for most states for appellate and trial court filing rates appear unrelated.

There is stronger evidence suggesting that some states have consistently high or low filing rates for civil and criminal cases. Civil filings in the District of Columbia, Delaware, Massachusetts, and Utah were far higher than in the median rate at which most states clustered. All four jurisdictions reported relatively high criminal filing rates. Missouri reported a low filing rate for both civil and criminal filings.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR CRIMINAL CASES IN 1987. Text Table 6 summarizes the information available from Table 10, Part II (p. 108) on clearance rates. As before, clearance rates are calculated wherever possible for the combined caseloads of all trial courts in a state with relevant subject matter jurisdiction, with separate clear-

---

[23] A 1985 Directory Survey of General Jurisdiction Courts, carried out by the U.S. Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Justice Statistics, found that 80 percent of the courts based their felony count on defendants and that 75 percent of convicted defendants were convicted on one charge. The survey also suggests substantial variation among individual courts within a state and identified counties that use more than one unit of count when compiling their criminal caseload data.

TEXT TABLE 6: Trial Court Clearance Rates for Criminal Cases, 1987

State	Total	General	Limited
New Mexico	79.6%	93.3%	78.4%
California	83.8%	94.3%	82.5%
Arizona	84.9%	91.8%	84.3%
Washington	85.3%	86.8%	85.1%
Florida	87.1%	92.7%	84.8%
Oklahoma	89.2%	89.2%	NH
Maine	89.3%	95.3%	87.7%
Missouri	91.1%	91.1%	NH
Alaska	91.9%	89.8%	92.1%
Rhode Island	92.3%	101.3%	91.0%
New Jersey	93.5%	94.2%	93.4%
Hawaii	93.7%	76.0%	95.9%
Vermont	94.4%	94.4%	NH
Minnesota	94.9%	94.9%	
Connecticut	95.1%	95.1%	NH
Michigan	95.5%	95.8%	95.4%
Iowa	96.0%	96.0%	
Kentucky	96.5%	97.8%	96.4%
North Carolina	97.6%	97.2%	97.7%
Nebraska	98.2%	104.4%	97.7%
Idaho	98.6%	98.6%	
Puerto Rico	98.7%	98.7%	98.8%
Delaware	99.1%	106.0%	98.7%
Virginia	99.5%	93.2%	100.7%
Colorado	99.9%	102.2%	99.0%
Utah	100.4%	192.9%	96.5%
District of Columbia	101.9%	101.9%	
Kansas	103.4%	103.4%	NH
Illinois	103.8%	103.8%	
Maryland	—	81.3%	N/A
Tennessee	—	85.5%	N/A
Indiana	—	88.7%	N/A
North Dakota	—	90.9%	N/A
Oregon	—	92.2%	N/A
Wisconsin	—	93.8%	N/A
Alabama	—	94.5%	N/A
Arkansas	—	95.0%	N/A
Georgia	—	95.9%	N/A
Pennsylvania	—	97.9%	N/A
Texas	—	98.2%	N/A
Ohio	—	99.0%	N/A
South Carolina	—	99.4%	N/A
New York	—	99.5%	N/A
West Virginia	—	103.6%	N/A
Wyoming	—	105.3%	N/A
Montana	—	119.3%	N/A

N/A = Not Available
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court.
— = A calculation is inappropriate.

Note: A blank space indicates that a state does not have a limited jurisdiction court.

Source: Tables 8 and 10, Part II
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

ance rates provided for the general jurisdiction courts and the limited jurisdiction courts in each state. A state total could be obtained for 27 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Three states and the District of Columbia reported clearance rates greater than 100 percent: Utah (100.4 percent), Kansas (103.4 percent), and Illinois (103.8 percent). The rate of 101.9 percent reported by the Superior Court of the District of Columbia repeats the pattern found for civil filings: the jurisdiction with the highest number of filings per 100,000 population also was one of the few to dispose of more cases than were filed.

Utah offers a more complex situation. It had the lowest clearance rates for civil cases in 1987. Yet the Utah District Court, a general jurisdiction trial court, reported the highest civil and criminal clearance rates of any court in both 1986 and 1987 (in 1987, it reported 4,320 criminal filings and 8,332 dispositions, resulting in a clearance rate of 193 percent). The majority of case filings, however, occur in the state's limited jurisdiction courts, where total civil filings in both years and criminal filings in 1986 substantially exceeded the number of cases disposed.

The general and limited jurisdiction courts in a state do not report consistent clearance rates, minimizing the value of examining the situation at the state level. Most courts at both levels, however, did not dispose of as many cases as were filed, and the gap between dispositions and filings was often substantial. Eleven of the 46 general jurisdiction courts included in Text Table 6 reported clearance rates of over 100 percent. Data are available for the limited jurisdiction courts of 18 states; the clearance rate exceeded 100 percent in only one state. In 1987 most courts were not able to keep pace with the increasing volume of criminal cases. The number of cases disposed of fell short of the number of new filings. As a result, the pending caseload grew, although the data do not tell us by how much. However, by whatever margin it grew, the change has serious implications, as it suggests that cases are being handled less expeditiously than before, and courts are accumulating problems that must be confronted in future years.

Juvenile Filings in 1987

The 1,338,737 juvenile filings during 1987, three-quarters in general jurisdiction trial courts, represent a small share (1.4 percent) of the total reported trial court caseload. Even when traffic/other violation filings are omitted, juvenile cases represent approximately one filing in 21 (4.7 percent). Juvenile petitions accounted for 4.0 percent of 1987 filings at the general jurisdiction level during 1987 (8.1 percent of nontraffic/other violation filings).

Juvenile caseloads reflect the use of various special procedures (sometimes special jurisdiction trial courts) to hear cases involving persons defined by state law as juveniles. The casetype includes criminal-type juvenile petitions, status offense petitions (conduct illegal only for children), and child victim petitions. A juvenile petition is the equivalent to a case filing in an adult trial court case.

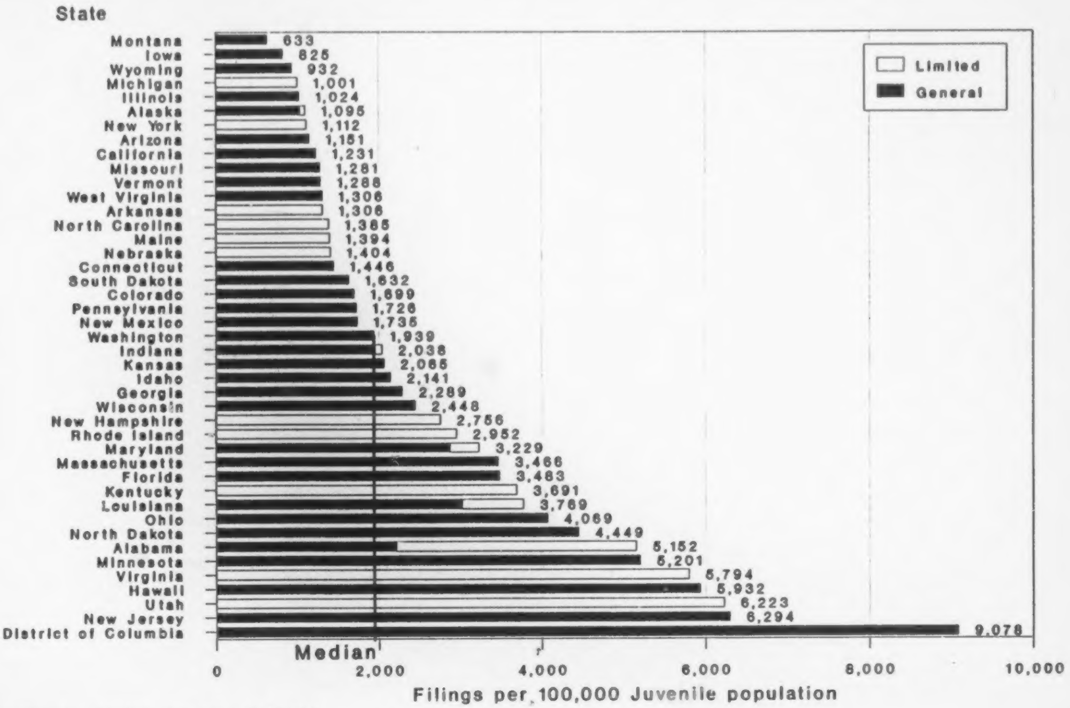
Filing and disposition statistics, along with explanatory footnotes, for each court with juvenile subject matter jurisdiction can be found in Table 12, Part II (p. 123). Statistics were not reported by Mississippi, Nevada, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.[24]

Juvenile caseloads emerge as a highly variable component of state trial court caseloads when examining data for individual states. Twenty-six states, the District of

---

[24] Juvenile caseload data for 1987 were received from the Indiana Probate Court and the Utah Juvenile Court in 1987; neither court reported caseload statistics for 1986.

GRAPH 7: Juvenile Filings per 100,000 Population in State Trial Courts, 1987



The following states are not included:
DE, MS, NV, OK, OR, PR, SC, TN, TX.

Columbia, and Puerto Rico report the data necessary to calculate the share of the combined civil, criminal, and juvenile caseload that juvenile petition filings represent. The resulting percentages range from 2 percent in Arizona and North Carolina to 16.8 percent in Hawaii. In eighteen states and Puerto Rico, the share is in the 3-5 percent range.[25] Larger shares are reported by the District of Columbia (6.3 percent), Kansas (7.1 percent), Kentucky (9.2 percent), Florida (9.6 percent), Minnesota (12.7 percent), and Utah (14.2 percent). As noted previously, juvenile cases were most prevalent in the Hawaii caseload: 16.8 percent of the nontraffic caseload and 36.2 percent of filings in the state's general jurisdiction court.

Graph 7 indicates the wide range of filing rates, calculated per 100,000 state residents age 17 or under, reported in 1987. Forty-two states and the District of Columbia are included.[26] Filings in a court of general jurisdiction are distinguished from those in courts of limited or special jurisdiction. All filings in Kentucky, Maine, Michigan, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Utah, and Virginia were in a court of limited or special jurisdiction. All juvenile petitions in 27 of the states included on the graph were filed in a general jurisdiction court; only Alabama, Alaska, Indiana, Louisiana, and Maryland reported juvenile filings at both court levels.

Juvenile filing rates per 100,000 juvenile population vary from 633 in Montana to 9,078 in the District of Columbia. The second-lowest rate is the 825 reported by Iowa; the second-highest filing rate is the 6,294 per 100,000 juvenile population rate reported by New Jersey. The remaining states cover the full range, with some bias toward the lower levels. A narrow band of rates, from 1,000 to 1,500, includes 14 states (in order of ascending rates: Michigan, Illinois, Alaska, New York, Arizona, California, Missouri, Vermont, West Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina, Maine, Nebraska, and Connecticut). South Dakota, Colorado, Pennsylvania, and New Mexico follow, all with rates below 1,750 filings per 100,000 juvenile population. Indiana, Kansas, and Washington have rates near the 2,000 mark, but the remaining states are arrayed at nearly even intervals between 2,141 (Idaho) and the District of Columbia, which reported a filing rate (9,078) five times the median of 1,939.

---

[25] The 18 states in which juvenile filings represent 3 to 5 percent of total civil, criminal, and juvenile filings are Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington. The percentage share of each type of case will be affected by footnotes indicating that statistics are incomplete or overinclusive in Tables 9, 10, and 12, Part II.

[26] The Arkansas County Court, sitting as the juvenile court, had exclusive jurisdiction to handle juvenile petitions until early in 1987. The Arkansas Supreme Court found that practice unconstitutional. Effective January 20, 1987, juvenile jurisdiction was transferred to the circuit court and the chancery and probate court, pending approval of a constitutional amendment, which was approved in November 1988, and pending a 1989 legislative act that would structure a new juvenile court system. Since the transfer occurred more than halfway through the reporting year used by the Arkansas courts, all 1987 filings are attributed to the county court.

One factor underlying the variation found for juvenile filing rates is the divergent means and degrees to which states have established special procedures and courts to process cases involving delinquent juveniles. "Civil" and "criminal" as caseload categories do not differ significantly from state to state. The same types of cases would be found in their 1987 filings. There is no such broad agreement on what constitutes a "juvenile" case, and what might be heard through regular court procedures in one state may be heard in a special juvenile court in another.

That difference is manifest in the age at which a person is no longer eligible for juvenile court handling. Most states define a juvenile as a person under age 18, often with exceptions based on the offense alleged (for example, Louisiana statutes define a juvenile as a person under age 17, but a 15 year old can be charged in the district court as an adult if the offense is first- or second-degree murder, manslaughter, or aggravated rape; the threshold rises to 16 if the offense is armed robbery, aggravated burglary, or aggravated kidnapping).

The age at which a person is no longer eligible for original juvenile court handling can have a large impact on both a state's criminal and juvenile caseload. Research consistently shows that involvement in crime is greatest in the 15-17 age group. Arrest statistics show that 15-to-19-year olds represent 28.7 percent of those arrested for FBI index crimes and 8.2 percent of the national population.[27] Therefore, the choice of 17 rather than 19 as the point to transfer court jurisdiction, or even 18, can significantly affect the relative number of juvenile as opposed to criminal court filings.

Thirty-seven states and the District of Columbia terminate original juvenile delinquency jurisdiction in juvenile courts at age 18; Wyoming does at age 19. Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, South Carolina, and Texas define an adult for purposes of court jurisdiction as a 17 year old. Four states use 16 as the threshold age dividing juvenile and adult status: Connecticut, New York, North Carolina, and Vermont.

The two latter groups of states have defined juvenile more narrowly than most states; this should be reflected in the size of their juvenile caseload. Graph 7 suggests that is indeed the case, as all four states have filing rates below the median. The use of a lower than typical age to terminate juvenile status may be a factor in the relatively low rates reported by Illinois and Michigan, but states that have adopted age 17 as the point of termination did not consistently report low filing rates.

Other factors may help explain these variations. Law enforcement agencies differ in the extent to which they divert juvenile law violators from further penetration into the juvenile justice system. Case-screening practices by juvenile court intake officers vary significantly and may result in a wide range of referral to petition ratios. Prosecutors have differing authority at the intake juncture, which may have an impact on these ratios. The amount of judge time available and the size of probation officers' supervision caseloads also may influence referral to petition ratios. Rural communities and states tend to file fewer petitions proportionally than more urban jurisdictions; their delinquent offenses may be less serious and more amenable to noncourt or informal handling. Some states allow for direct filings of charges in a criminal court, particularly with older juveniles and more serious offenses, although the numbers of cases involved are not great.

Generally, the juvenile status offense category is known to have extreme variance. Such cases are rarely or infrequently petitioned in some jurisdictions but regularly petitioned elsewhere, and the differences are sometimes pronounced even within one state.

Dependency, neglect, and abuse case filings have increased in recent years. The frequency with which a child protection agency files juvenile court petitions, as opposed to working with a family without court intervention, also varies sizably.

CLEARANCE RATES FOR JUVENILE PETITIONS IN 1987. Text Table 7 presents clearance rates for juvenile petitions, based on caseload statistics from Table 12, Part II (p. 123). Statewide clearance rates can be obtained for 34 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The rates range from a low of 67.7 percent in Florida to a high of 109.8 percent in North Carolina. Six other states reported clearance rates greater than 100 percent: Arizona, New Mexico, New York, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia. Thus, fewer than one state in five reduced the size of its pending caseload during 1987. Since most juvenile petitions are filed and decided in general jurisdiction courts, the state ranking is usually that of the general jurisdiction trial court. Clearance rates could be calculated for 42 general and limited (usually special) jurisdiction courts handling juvenile petitions. In 35 of those courts, the clearance rate was below 100 percent; 11 courts reported clearance rates below 90 percent.

The states with the highest and the lowest juvenile filing rates tended to have comparable criminal filing rates. The high juvenile filing rates reported by the District of Columbia, Utah, and Virginia were complemented by high criminal filing rates. Iowa and Missouri reported low filing rates for both types of cases. Generally, the District of Columbia and Virginia had high trial court filing rates, while Missouri had low filing rates.

Trial Courts in 1987: A Summary

State trial court filings increased in 1987. The increase was greatest for criminal cases, especially those filed in general jurisdiction courts (an increase of 5.8 percent). Civil case filings increased slightly, with a larger increase in limited than in general jurisdiction courts. The increase parallels the experience of appellate courts, which have reported 3.9 percent more filings in 1987 than in 1986.

---

[27] The authority for the "peak" at age 15-17 in criminal activity is Travis Hirschi and Michael Gottfredson, "Age and the Explanation of Crime," *American Journal of Sociology*, Vol. 89, No. 3 (November 1983). The arrest percentage is calculated from Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice, *Crime in the United States: Uniform Crime Reports 1987*, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1988, Table 33, p. 174.

TEXT TABLE 7: Trial Court Clearance Rates for Juvenile Cases, 1987

State	Total	General	Limited
Florida	67.7%	67.7%	NH
Maine	80.0%	NH	80.0%
Illinois	81.0%	81.0%	
Alaska	81.5%	82.9%	59.3%
Montana	84.7%	84.7%	NH
Michigan	85.0%	NH	85.0%
Washington	87.6%	87.6%	NH
Alabama	87.8%	79.7%	93.9%
Colorado	88.1%	88.1%	NH
Kentucky	91.1%	NH	91.1%
California	92.9%	92.9%	NH
Virginia	94.1%	NH	94.1%
Pennsylvania	94.4%	94.4%	NH
Delaware	94.5%	NH	94.5%
Kansas	95.5%	95.5%	NH
Rhode Island	96.1%	NH	96.1%
Maryland	96.4%	97.3%	88.9%
Vermont	96.4%	96.4%	NH
Arkansas	97.5%	NH	97.5%
Connecticut	97.5%	97.5%	NH
Puerto Rico	97.7%	97.7%	NH
New Jersey	98.0%	98.0%	NH
Idaho	98.5%	98.5%	
Hawaii	98.7%	98.7%	NH
Minnesota	99.0%	99.0%	
Ohio	99.6%	99.6%	NH
Wisconsin	99.6%	99.6%	NH
Indiana	99.8%	99.9%	96.7%
District of Columbia	99.9%	99.9%	
New Mexico	100.6%	100.6%	NH
West Virginia	101.1%	101.1%	NH
Utah	101.3%	NH	101.3%
Arizona	103.2%	103.2%	NH
New York	103.6%	NH	103.6%
Texas	109.3%	111.7%	98.3%
North Carolina	109.8%	NH	109.8%
Louisiana	—	N/A	92.5%

N/A = Not Available
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court.
— = A calculation is inappropriate.

Note: A blank space indicates that a state does not have a limited jurisdiction court.

Source: Tables 8 and 12, Part II
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

There was little variation among states in the rate of 1987 civil filings, with most states reporting civil filing rates close to the median of 6,338 per 100,000 population. Considerable variation was present for criminal filing rates. The range was from 1,466 to 13,565 per 100,000 population, with a median of 4,736 filings. Greater variation characterized juvenile filing rates. States reported filing rates that range from 633 to 9,078 filings per 100,000 juvenile population in 1987.

The differences among states reflect both real variation in the extent to which cases are brought before the courts and the various methods of counts and degrees of data completeness. However, the degree of variation found for the three types of cases is consistent with what would be expected. Civil law and procedure are broadly similar across the country. Crime rates, the criminal law, law enforcement procedure, and practice all differ among states in ways that affect the number of cases reaching the courts. Such differences are still more pronounced in their impact on the use of courts to handle juvenile cases.

A few states report consistently high or consistently low use of their trial courts. Delaware, the District of Columbia, and Virginia reported among the highest filing rates for all three types of cases. Missouri reported among the lowest rates for all three. In states with two-tier trial court systems, civil cases dominate the caseload of general jurisdiction courts.

A strong and disturbing pattern in 1987 trial court caseload statistics is the low clearance rates. Many, perhaps most, courts are experiencing difficulty in keeping up with the inflow of new cases. The number of new cases filed in 1987 often substantially exceeded the number of cases that were disposed of by the court. The problem is more prevalent for juvenile petition and criminal cases than for civil cases, and more serious for limited jurisdiction than for general jurisdiction courts.

Finally, there is no clear relationship between the rate of trial court filings and the rate of appellate filings in a state. Nationally, trial courts and appellate court filings recorded similar percentage increases. But that consistency is not evident in the individual states. The appellate courts of most states, however, will need to cope with the consequences of the trial court caseload growth recorded in 1987 as the cases filed in that year reach judgment and become the subject of appeals.

Trends in Civil and Criminal Court Filings: 1981-87

This section places 1987 trial court filings in the context of recent caseload trends. Two main questions are addressed. First, to what extent are filing rates for individual states and courts essentially stable over time? If filing rates change dramatically and unsystematically from year to year, then the rankings of states reported in the preceding section for civil, criminal, and juvenile filing rates are probably attributable to short-term or random factors. Stability in ranking suggests that durable characteristics such as state legal systems, economies, and demographies are influential in determining the size and composition of court caseloads.

Second, is there sufficient consistency among courts and states to draw conclusions about nationwide change in the state courts? Although states differ in how they report their caseload data, each state tends to retain its system for generating caseload statistics and can thus define its own baseline when assessing the direction and magnitude of change over time. Also, sharp fluctuations from one year to the next can be associated with specific changes in a state's law, procedures, or recordkeeping and should not be confused with underlying, fundamental trends in filing levels.

The baseline used for this section is the caseload reported by state trial courts in 1981.[28] The trends examined describe change in specific torts, general civil (a combination of tort, contract, and real property rights filings), and criminal felonies. These case categories are indicators of important changes in the size and composition of court caseloads. Torts, general civil, and felony cases tend to consume more court resources than other case categories and to speak directly to the concerns and questions many court managers, legislators, and the public have about the work of the state courts.

Trends in Tort Filings

Torts are allegations of injury or wrong committed either against a person or against a person's property by a party who either failed to do something that they were obligated to do or did something that they were obligated not to do. The caseload statistics reports for 1985 and 1986 contained a separate section devoted to trends in tort litigation. This report updates selected indicators of trends in torts and general civil case filings.

Tort filing data can be obtained from 26 general jurisdiction and six limited jurisdiction courts. The number of filings and the rate of filings per 100,000 population per year are detailed in Appendix Table 1.1. Filing data for 1982 and 1983 are not available, leaving a gap in the time series and requiring caution when interpreting the strength and direction of trends.[29]

The focus here is on the four adjacent years: 1984-87. Chart 5 summarizes the change experienced by each court in each year. Courts are categorized as having a lower or higher filing rate only if the change is greater than 2 percent.

The data suggest three consistencies in tort filings. First, tort filing rates fluctuate in most states rather than remain stable. Second, there is a national direction to the fluctuation in a given year. Third, despite the fluctuations, there is an apparent underlying upward trend in some states but no underlying downward trend.

The first consistency answers the question about stability in filing rates. Filing rates in most states fluctuate from year to year, often substantially. Large fluctuations tend to be associated with specific changes in statute law or court procedure that make it advantageous for litigants to file a lawsuit either before or after a particular date. Tort reform legislation in Utah during 1986, for example, set a cap on the amount of noneconomic damages that a plaintiff could recover, modified the doctrine of joint and several liability, and required structured settlements for certain categories of awards. Tort filings in Utah doubled between 1985 and 1986 and then decreased by 48 percent between 1986 and 1987. The net effect was minor when considered in relation to population: there were 76 tort filings per 100,000 population in the Utah District Court in 1985 and 79 per 100,000 population in 1987. The sharp fluctuations reported for the state of Washington and, perhaps, Colorado may reflect the same pattern of a sharp rise in response to incentives to file in one year followed by an equally precipitous decline back to a rate close to the original filing level.

Other fluctuations may reflect alterations during the 1980s to the maximum dollar amount jurisdiction for cases filed in courts of limited jurisdiction and for small claims procedures. In most states, that maximum has increased substantially. Limited jurisdiction courts and small claims procedures are now viable alternatives to filing a tort case in the general jurisdiction courts of many states. This adds weight to the significance of the increases observed in tort filings, since case filings in general jurisdiction courts presumably represent a diminishing share of total claims for tort damages. For example, on July 1, 1986 (the start of the court reporting year), the maximum dollar amount of a small claims filing in the Alaska District Court rose from $1,000 to $5,000. This may account, in part, for the large decrease (28 percent) in tort filings in the Alaska Superior Court between 1986 and 1987.

A second consistency to tort filing rates in the mid-1980s speaks to the question of national patterns. There is some consistency among states in the timing of upward and downward fluctuations. Filing rates tended to increase in 1985 and again in 1986. Between 1984 and 1985, 13 of 22 states registered increases in the rate at which tort cases were filed in their general jurisdiction trial court. Between 1985 and 1986, 22 of 26 states registered an increase. The change between 1986 and 1987 was more likely to be either slight (10 states) or downward (9 states), with only seven states registering increases. This consistency suggests factors operating at a national or, perhaps, regional level that affect the extent and direction of change to tort filing rates.

A third consistency suggests that the direction in the filing trends is upward. New York is the only state in Chart 5 in which two successive decreases were reported: 1984/85 (–6 percent) and 1985/86 (–10 percent). Given the absence of states with sustained decreases in filings over the mid-1980s, a general downward pattern is implausible. Moreover, sufficient states are experiencing increases in their general jurisdiction court filings during the 1984-87 period to support a general upward trend. California, Ohio, and Puerto Rico experienced three successive increases, while most (11 of the 13) states reporting an increase over 1984/85 also reported an increase in 1985/86.

Some of the increases over the full 1981-87 period are substantial indeed. Tort filings per 100,000 population increased by 49 percent in Texas, 48 percent in California, 34 percent in Ohio, and 31 percent in Connecticut. Most increases were more modest, and the story that emerges

---

[28] The caseload statistics series published by the National Center for State Courts begins in 1975. However, 1981 is the earliest year for which caseload data comparable to that reported in this volume can be obtained for a significant number of general jurisdiction courts. The only other annual series on state court caseloads was collected and published by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The last volume in that series reported 1946 statistics.

[29] Before 1986, civil case filings in New York's general jurisdiction courts, the supreme court and county court, were reported based on a count taken at the "trial note of issue," a document by which the parties indicate their readiness for trial. In 1986 and 1987, civil filing statistics from those courts are based on a count taken at the "request for judicial intervention," which is usually filed with the first motion, an event that takes place at an earlier stage in the litigation process than the "trial note of issue." The change in the point of count is of great importance for caseload trends. The New York supreme and county courts reported 126,776 civil case filings in 1985 and 284,568 in 1986. Table 9, Part II (p.100) reports 242,503 civil filings for 1987. However, to make the trend tables prepared by the NCSC Court Statistics Project consistent over time, case filing statistics in Appendix Tables 1.1 and 1.2 in Part I of this report are based on a count of filings taken at the "trial note of issue." Thus, Appendix Table 1.2 reports 121,433 civil filings in 1987 for the Now York supreme and county courts, based on information provided by the New York State Office of Court Administration.

CHART 5: Tort filing trends in general jurisdiction courts, 1984-1987

	1984-1985	1985-1986	1986-1987
DOWN: Decrease of 3 percent or more	UTAH District .... -13% MARYLAND Circuit .... -8% NEW YORK Supreme and County .... -6% NORTH DAKOTA District .. -6% MASSACHUSETTS Trial .... -5% (5 Courts)	NEW YORK Supreme and County .... -10% (1 Court)	WASHINGTON Superior -60% UTAH District ...... -48% COLORADO District .. -41% ALASKA Superior .... -28% IDAHO District ..... -17% MAINE Superior ..... -14% MASSACHUSETTS Trial -6% FLORIDA Circuit .... -3% MISSOURI .... -3% (9 Courts)
NO CHANGE: Decrease or increase no greater than 2 percent	MAINE Superior .... -1% NEW JERSEY Superior ..... 0% KANSAS District .... 1% CONNECTICUT Superior .... 2% (4 Courts)	MAINE Superior ...... -2% MONTANA District .... -1% TEXAS District ...... 0% (3 Courts)	NORTH DAKOTA District -1% ARKANSAS Circuit .... 0% HAWAII Circuit ...... 0% NORTH CAROLINA Superior 0% ARIZONA Superior .... 1% MONTANA District .... 1% NEW YORK Supreme and County .... 1% KANSAS District ..... 2% NEW JERSEY Superior . 2% TENNESSEE Circuit & Chancery .... 2% (10 Courts)
UP: Increase of 3 percent or more	HAWAII Circuit .... 3% MISSOURI Circuit .... 4% COLORADO District .... 6% TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery .... 6% TEXAS District .... 7% WASHINGTON Superior ..... 7% FLORIDA Circuit .... 8% PUERTO RICO Superior .... 11% ARIZONA Superior .... 12% CALIFORNIA Superior ..... 12% MONTANA District .... 14% IDAHO District .... 16% OHIO Court of Common Pleas 16% (13 Courts)	ARKANSAS Circuit .... 3% HAWAII Circuit ...... 4% MASSACHUSETTS Trial . 4% TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery .... 4% PUERTO RICO Superior 4% KANSAS District ..... 5% ARIZONA Superior .... 6% IDAHO District ...... 7% CONNECTICUT Superior 7% NEW JERSEY Superior . 7% ALASKA Superior ..... 9% NORTH CAROLINA Superior 9% MISSOURI Circuit .... 10% OHIO Court of Common Pleas .... 10% NORTH DAKOTA District 11% MICHIGAN Circuit .... 13% CALIFORNIA Superior . 14% FLORIDA Circuit ..... 16% MARYLAND Circuit .... 20% COLORADO District ... 34% WASHINGTON Superior . 98% UTAH District .... 100% (22 Courts)	CALIFORNIA Superior . 3% MARYLAND Circuit .... 3% OHIO Court of Common Pleas .... 3% PUERTO RICO Superior 5% TEXAS District ...... 6% MICHIGAN Circuit .... 9% CONNECTICUT Superior 11% (7 Courts)
	Total Number of Courts (22)	Total Number of Courts (26)	Total Number of Courts (26)

Source: APPENDIX TABLE 1.1

from the case filing statistics will vary depending on which states are regarded as the most significant bellwethers of change. Some tentative trends can be put forward, however, based on the 1981-87 tort filing data. Each trend is a distinctive pattern in terms of the consistency and direction of change in filing rates.

First, tort filings in six states and Puerto Rico have grown consistently over the 1981-87 period: Arizona (from 1984), California, Connecticut, Michigan, Ohio, and Texas (included although there was no change in the filing rate per 100,000 population between 1985/86). Second, there was an apparent upward trend in three states, broken only in 1986/87. This describes the trends for Florida, Hawaii (which recorded no change on a population-adjusted basis over 1986/87), and Missouri (from 1984). Third, filings in nine states do not manifest a clear direction, fluctuating from year to year. This is the most common trend. These states are Idaho (substantial fluctuation, especially over 1986/87), Kansas (minor year-to-year change, essentially stable), Maine (little change until substantial 1986/87 decrease), Maryland (fluctuation with some indication that an upward trend may be present), Massachusetts (fluctuation but with evidence of a downward trend), Montana (essentially stable), New Jersey (upward since 1984), North Dakota (minor fluctuation, but the rate is essentially stable), and Tennessee (fluctuation, with some evidence of an upward trend).

A fourth trend consists of three states that recorded sharp increases over 1985/86 that could be attributed to specific changes in state statutory law or court procedure (see Part II, *State Court Caseload Statistics: 1986 Report*). The three states, which recorded substantial decreases in their filing rates between 1986 and 1987, are Colorado (where the trend seems to be downward), Utah (where there is no identifiable trend), and Washington (where the trend is upward except for the 1986/87 change).

New York suggests a fifth trend that may be present in states not included in Appendix Table 1.1. New York is the only state offering clear evidence of a strong downward trend; that trend, however, was broken in 1986/87, when an increase was recorded.

To summarize, the available state court data on tort filings include six states with a consistent upward trend and five states with what can plausibly be interpreted as an upward trend but where the year-to-year change is not consistently upward. The filing rate has not consistently decreased in any state, although the trend is apparently downward in Colorado, Massachusetts, and New York. There is no satisfactory basis for attributing a direction to the filing data for remaining states; filing rates are essentially stable, particularly over the 1984-86 period.

Torts as a Percentage of Total Civil Filings

The trends just identified can clearly only be characterized as such in the short term. The available data cover too brief a time span to draw firm conclusions about the extent and direction of fundamental changes in tort filings. It would buttress the tentative conclusions considerably, however, if, even in the short term, tort filings were increasing more rapidly than other types of civil cases. This is the case for those states recording consistent year-to-year increases in tort filing rates.

The percentage of total civil filings that were tort cases in 1985, 1986, and 1987 can be calculated from the data in Appendix Table 1.2. Twenty-five states and Puerto Rico are included. The resulting percentages are presented in Text Table 8. In 11 states, the percentage was essentially unchanged over the three-year period; in 10 states the percentage increased, and in four states it declined.[30]

The largest increases were in the general jurisdiction courts of California, Maine, and Maryland. Torts represented 17.9 percent of California's 1985 civil filings and 20.4 percent of 1987 filings. The change in Maine was from 28.8 percent to 31.1 percent and in Maryland from 10.1 percent to 12.2 percent. More modest increases occurred in Arizona (11.1 percent to 12.1 percent) and in Texas (8.3 to 9.2 percent). These percentages are cited as evidence that tort filings were increasing at a faster pace than other types of civil cases.

TEXT TABLE 8: Tort Filings as a Percent of Civil Filings

State/Court name:	1985	1986	1987
General jurisdiction courts:			
Alaska Superior	11.4	14.2	11.0
Arizona Superior	11.0	11.6	12.1
Arkansas Circuit	16.0	15.5	15.4
California Superior	17.9	19.9	20.4
Colorado District, Denver Superior, Juvenile and Probate	5.0	5.8	3.5
Connecticut Superior	8.5	8.9	10.4
Florida Circuit	7.1	8.0	8.0
Hawaii Circuit	6.4	6.7	6.9
Idaho District	3.3	3.5	3.1
Kansas District	3.3	3.2	3.1
Maine Superior	28.8	30.8	31.1
Maryland Circuit	10.1	11.6	12.2
Michigan Circuit	15.9	17.5	17.4
Minnesota District	—	4.4	4.7
Missouri Circuit	4.3	4.5	4.2
Montana District	6.8	6.5	6.7
New Jersey Superior	7.1	7.3	7.3
New York Supreme and County	28.1	26.7	28.2
North Carolina Superior	9.2	9.6	9.1
North Dakota District	3.6	3.7	3.6
Ohio Court of Common Pleas	8.8	8.7	8.7
Tennessee Circuit, Criminal and Chancery	12.0	12.3	12.2
Texas District	8.4	9.1	9.2
Utah District	4.2	7.7	5.5
Washington Superior	8.0	14.4	6.2
Puerto Rico Superior	7.0	6.7	7.4
Limited jurisdiction courts:			
Alaska District	3.6	15.5	4.4
Florida County	—	12.1	14.6
Hawaii District	3.2	3.5	4.2
Ohio County	1.8	1.8	1.8
Ohio Municipal	4.0	4.1	4.3
Texas County-Level	5.1	5.5	5.7
Puerto Rico District	3.4	3.8	3.7

Source: Appendix Table 1.2, Part I
National Center for State Courts, 1989.

Diminished percentage shares are found in Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, and Washington. Both tort filings and total civil filings were increasing in Arkansas over the three-year period, but the growth in tort filings did not keep pace with other categories of civil cases. Colorado, Utah, and Washington were cited earlier as likely examples of the impact of tort reform. That attribution is strengthened by the fact that tort filings in those states apparently changed far more dramatically than total civil filings.

---

[30] A more formal analysis would take into consideration that a change from 21 percent to 22 percent is not proportional to a change from, say 3 percent to 4 percent. The standard procedure is a logarithmic transformation of the data.

Torts as a percentage of total civil filings offer an indicator of change that is not linked to state population. The size of the population is growing in most states, and if filings remain constant from one year to the next, the result is a decreased filing rate. The use of population-adjusted filing data, therefore, imposes a more difficult standard for upward trends than for downward trends. Also, population change for individual states is often influenced by net migration, which can cause rapid change to the population size of states in some regions.[31]

Overall, the use of percentages tends to support the conclusions drawn using rates per 100,000 population. Torts were increasing more rapidly than other civil filings in only a few states during the 1985-1987 period. There was, however, a sharp upward swing in tort filings between 1985 and 1986: torts increased as a percentage of total civil filings in 16 of 25 courts reporting relevant data. Although that increase did not recur in the 1986/87 changes for most states, there is more evidence in support of rising tort filings than in support of declining tort filings.

Trends in General Civil Filings: 1981-87

Torts are a small component of civil filings in most general jurisdiction trial courts. The range in 1987 was from 3 percent (in Idaho and Kansas) to 31 percent (in Maine). General civil filings offer a larger, more broadly based indicator of trends. The category includes all contract, real property rights, and tort cases. It is possible that general civil filings are changing more consistently and substantially than tort filings alone. This is the case in the federal courts, where contract cases are increasing more rapidly than tort filings.[32]

The number of general civil cases filed and the rate of filings per 100,000 population can be found in Appendix Table 1.3. Changes in filing rates between 1984/85, 1985/86, and 1986/87 are summarized in Chart 6.

The consistencies identified for tort filing rates also apply to general civil cases over the 1984-87 period. The change between 1984 and 1985 and between 1985 and 1986 was upward in most states. There was, however, no clear direction to the change between 1986 and 1987. Of the 18 states reporting data for both 1986 and 1987, six experienced decreases, five were unchanged, and seven experienced increases. There are fewer very large increases or decreases when changes are calculated for general civil filings. It seems reasonable to attribute the more substantial year-to-year changes found for tort filings to specific tort reform legislation.

There is little consistency in the experience of general jurisdiction courts over the full 1981-87 period. Eleven state general jurisdiction courts and the District of Columbia Superior Court reported data for 1981 and 1984-87. A clear upward trend can be identified in Alabama and Kansas. Filing rates fluctuated in Colorado and Texas, but the direction of the change over the period appears to be upward. Most states recorded year-to-year changes, but without establishing a clear trend: Arkansas, Delaware, North Carolina, North Dakota, Tennessee, and Washington.

Hawaii and the District of Columbia recorded substantial and consistent declines in general civil filings. The Hawaii Circuit Court received 390 general civil filings per 100,000 population in 1981 and 339 per 100,000 population in 1987, a decrease of 13 percent. General civil filings in the District of Columbia declined by 20 percent between 1981-87, from 17,183 to 13,827 filings per 100,000 population. The lower general civil filing rates may be the result of changes that made small claims procedures applicable to a broader range of cases. In the District of Columbia, for example, the maximum dollar amount for a small claims filing was increased from $750 in 1981 to $2,000 in 1987.

Overall, the limited evidence on general civil filings is less conclusive than that available for torts. Several states recorded increased filings during the 1981-87 period, several states recorded decreased filings, while most recorded no consistent upward or downward trend. These are sufficient differences between tort and general civil case filing patterns to suggest that the factors promoting increased or decreased levels of tort litigation in states may not be having a similar effect on contract and real property rights litigation.

Trends in Felony Filings: 1981-87

Felonies are serious criminal offenses. Typically, a felony is an offense for which the minimum prison sentence is one year or more. The definition of a felony and the specific offenses involved varies among the states, but felony case filings always include the most serious offenses and exclude minor offenses.

The trend over the 1980s is clear: felony filings are increasing and increasing substantially in most general jurisdiction trial courts. Consistency across states strongly supports the identification of a national trend.

Felony case filing statistics and filing rates per 100,000 populations for 1981 and 1984-87 are presented in Appendix Table 1.4. Chart 7 summarizes the year-to-year changes each court experienced over the 1984-87 period.

Filings per 100,000 population increased in one-half to two-thirds of the courts reporting relevant data for each set of adjacent years. Between 1984/85, three courts registered a decrease, 10 courts remained unchanged, and 19 courts registered an increase. An increase or decrease here means that filings per 100,000 population changed by 2 percent or more. Of the 36 courts with relevant data for the 1985/86 change, four registered decreases, 12 no change, and 20 increases. The comparable 1986/87 figures are six decreases, six no change, and 21 increases.

Increases tended to be substantial. While no state court reported a decrease of more than 9 percent, and most decreases were in the 3 to 5 percent range, many courts reported year-to-year increases of 10 to 20 percent. The cumulative increase in the rate of felony filings is, therefore,

---

[31] Tort filings can be standardized using a variety of rates, including rates per 100,000 households, rates per 100,000 firms, or rates per 100,000 economic transactions in a state. The rate selected should reflect the purpose of the analysis. In this report, the issue is simply whether filings are increasing more or less rapidly than the population.

[32] Marc Galanter, "The Life and Times of the Big Six; or, The Federal Courts Since the Good Old Days." Madison: University of Wisconsin, Institute for Legal Studies, Disputes Processing Research Program, Working Paper Number 6, August 1988.

CHART 6: General civil filing trends in general jurisdiction courts, 1984-1987

General jurisdiction courts:	1984-1985	1985-1986	1986-1987
DOWN: Decrease of 3 percent or more	HAWAII Circuit .... -7% DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior .... -4% (2 Courts)	ALASKA Superior .... -40% TEXAS District .... -3% (2 Courts)	UTAH District ...... -38% WASHINGTON Superior -25% MONTANA District ... -10% DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior .... -6% HAWAII Circuit ..... -5% DELAWARE Superior .. -4% (6 Courts)
NO CHANGE: Decrease or an increase no greater than 2 percent	DELAWARE Superior .... 0% NORTH DAKOTA District ... 1% (2 Courts)	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior .... -1% UTAH District .... -1% HAWAII Circuit .... 0% NORTH CAROLINA Superior 1% (4 Courts)	MICHIGAN Circuit ... -2% NORTH DAKOTA District .... -2% ARKANSAS Circuit ... -1% NORTH CAROLINA Superior .... 0% KANSAS District .... 2% (5 Courts)
UP: Increase in of 3 percent or more	TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery .... 4% NORTH CAROLINA Superior . 8% ALABAMA Circuit .... 9% KANSAS District .... 9% TEXAS District .... 9% COLORADO District .... 10% MONTANA District .... 10% WASHINGTON Superior ..... 10% ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate .... 18% (9 Courts)	ALABAMA Circuit .... 4% TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery .... 4% MONTANA District ...... 5% NORTH DAKOTA District . 5% ARKANSAS Circuit ...... 6% CONNECTICUT Superior .. 6% ARIZONA Superior ...... 10% KANSAS District .... 11% DELAWARE Superior ..... 12% ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate............. 13% WASHINGTON Superior ... 21% MICHIGAN Circuit ...... 22% COLORADO District ..... 30% (13 Courts)	TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery .... 3% TEXAS District .... 3% COLORADO District . 5% ALABAMA Circuit ... 8% ARIZONA Superior .. 9% CONNECTICUT Superior 14% ALASKA Superior ... 21% (7 Courts)
	Total Number of Courts (13)	Total Number of Courts (19)	Total Number of Courts (19)

Source: APPENDIX TABLE 1.3

quite substantial in a number of states. Between 1984 and 1987, felony filings per 100,000 population consistently increased by 3 percent or more in California (a cumulative increase of 31.4 percent), the District of Columbia (79.3 percent), New Hampshire (32.9 percent), New York (26.7 percent), and Washington (29.1 percent).

There were, however, fluctuations for most courts despite the strong underlying trend toward higher felony filings. Hawaii, for example, registered a decrease between 1984/85, no change between 1985/86, and an increase between 1986/87. No state registered three successive decreases, and only two states with relevant data (Vermont and Wyoming) failed to register at least one increase of 3 percent or more.

Over the full 1981-87 period, felony filings per 100,000 population increased in 20 states and the District of Columbia. Filing rates declined in six states over those years. Filing data for nine states were not available either for 1981 or 1987.

Despite the general consistency with which states recorded increased filing rates, the data do not provide unambiguous evidence of a strong, nationwide upward trend in the state courts. The experience of the states falls instead into four main trends. Strong and consistent upward trends are identifiable in Arkansas (60 percent), California (41 percent), Connecticut (43 percent), the District of Columbia (138 percent), New Jersey (32 percent), and New York (46 percent). Eight other states can be categorized as having a clear upward trend, but one that was not consistent over the full time period. The states (and the percent increase recorded between 1981 and 1987) are Arizona (21 percent), Iowa (27 percent), New Hampshire (30 percent), North Dakota (16 percent), Oregon (16 percent), South Dakota (16 percent), Texas (26 percent), and Washington (25 percent).

There was no evident direction in the changes experienced by Colorado, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia, and Wisconsin. The 1981-87 percentage change in the filing rate may have been large, but the direction of year-to-year changes was inconsistent.

Three states (Kansas, Rhode Island, and Wyoming) appear to have experienced downward trends. Filing rates

CHART 7: Felony filing trends in general jurisdiction courts, 1984-1987

	1984-1985	1985-1986	1986-1987
DOWN: Decrease of 3 percent or more	KANSAS District -8% NORTH CAROLINA Superior -5% HAWAII Circuit -3% (3 Courts)	IOWA District -3% MAINE Superior -3% NEW JERSEY Superior -3% WEST VIRGINIA Circuit -3% (4 Courts)	INDIANA Superior and Circuit -9% MONTANA District -5% WISCONSIN Circuit -5% WYOMING District -5% VERMONT District -4% RHODE ISLAND Superior -3% (6 Courts)
NO CHANGE: Decrease or increase no greater than 2 percent	OHIO Court of Common Pleas -2% ILLINOIS Circuit -1% VERMONT Superior 0% VIRGINIA Circuit 0% WEST VIRGINIA Circuit 0% NEW JERSEY Superior 1% WYOMING District 1% NORTH DAKOTA District 2% OKLAHOMA District 2% VERMONT District 2% (10 Courts)	HAWAII Circuit -2% KENTUCKY Circuit -1% WISCONSIN Circuit -1% WYOMING District -1% COLORADO District, Denver Superior, Juvenile and Probate 0% VERMONT Superior 0% GEORGIA Superior 1% MINNESOTA District 1% MONTANA District 1% SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit 1% ARKANSAS Circuit 2% ILLINOIS Circuit 2% (12 Courts)	ILLINOIS Circuit -2% COLORADO District, Denver Superior, Juvenile and Probate 0% MAINE Superior 0% ARIZONA Superior 1% OHIO Court of Common Pleas 2% SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit 2% (6 Courts)
UP: Increase of 3 percent or more	NEW YORK Supreme and County 3% OREGON Circuit 3% GEORGIA Superior 4% COLORADO District, Denver Superior, Juvenile and Probate 5% IOWA District 5% TEXAS District 5% ARIZONA Superior 7% NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior 7% WISCONSIN Circuit 7% CALIFORNIA Superior 8% MINNESOTA District 8% DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior 9% INDIANA Superior and Circuit 9% IDAHO District 10% RHODE ISLAND Superior 12% MAINE Superior 13% WASHINGTON Superior 14% ARKANSAS Circuit 18% SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit 18% (19 Courts)	OKLAHOMA District 3% KANSAS District 4% VIRGINIA Circuit 4% OHIO Court of Common Pleas 5% MISSOURI Circuit 6% NORTH DAKOTA District 6% OREGON Circuit 7% WASHINGTON Superior 7% NORTH CAROLINA Superior 9% RHODE ISLAND Superior 9% MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth 11% NEW YORK Supreme and County 11% NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior 12% CALIFORNIA Superior 13% VERMONT District 13% ARIZONA Superior 15% CONNECTICUT Superior 15% TEXAS District 17% INDIANA Superior and Circuit 23% DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior 32% (20 Courts)	KANSAS District 3% HAWAII Circuit 4% OKLAHOMA District 4% WASHINGTON Superior 5% NEW JERSEY Superior 6% VIRGINIA Circuit 6% IOWA District 7% TEXAS District 7% CALIFORNIA Superior 8% MISSOURI Circuit 8% NORTH DAKOTA District 8% OREGON Circuit 8% WEST VIRGINIA Circuit 8% MINNESOTA District 10% NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior 10% NEW YORK Supreme and County 11% ARKANSAS Circuit 12% NORTH CAROLINA Superior 12% CONNECTICUT Superior 14% MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth 15% DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior 24% (21 Courts)
	Total Number of Courts (32)	Total Number of Courts (36)	Total Number of Courts (33)

Source: APPENDIX TABLE 1.4

in those states tended to fall over the 1981-87 period but not consistently.

In sum, felony filings manifest a clear upward trend. The time span covered is still brief, and data are not available for some states. But states drawn from all regions report a consistent pattern of rising felony case filings.

Case Filing Trends, 1981-87: A Summary

This section reveals some dynamics underlying the 1987 trial court caseload statistics. Change rather than continuity characterizes filing levels for tort, general civil, and felony criminal case filings. Specifically, civil filing rates in general jurisdiction courts tend to fluctuate from year to year. There is more evidence of a tendency toward higher rather than toward lower case filings, but few courts report large successive changes in the same direction even over the limited time period considered here. The ranking of states by cases filed per 100,000 population is unlikely to remain the same in 1988.

There is sufficient consistency to the changes registered to suggest that some national patterns exist, applicable to many if not to all states. Overall, however, the data suggest that conclusions must be tentative. The consistencies that can be identified should be balanced against the substantial variation that is present among the courts and, for most courts, over the 1981-87 period.

Variation is particularly evident for civil cases. The addition of 1987 data to the tort filing time series is far from conclusive. Between 1985 and 1986, tort filing rates increased in most states reporting data, often substantially. This was largely reversed between 1986 and 1987. A tendency toward higher filing rates can be identified, but its strength will depend on the importance given to different courts and to different ways of presenting the trends.

The trend analysis also suggests that tort filings are changing over time in a manner that differs from that being experienced by other civil case categories. It is possible that tort filing rates in recent years have been influenced by specific legislative changes enacted by states. A more conclusive assessment must await the accumulation of more time points in the trend series.

Felony case filings are experiencing an upward trend. The result is a growth in the portion of criminal caseloads that carries the most substantial implications for court staffing and resources. Most courts were processing far more felony cases in 1987 than at the start of the decade.

Conclusion

This commentary has three main objectives. The first is to describe the work of state court systems, identifying similarities and differences. The second is to relate the similarities and differences to the manner in which states organize their court systems and to other state characteristics. The third is to assess changes over time in state court caseloads.

Similarities among appellate court systems include the filing rates for both mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions, which clustered around the median creating a broad middle range of states. Most appellate courts reported success in keeping pace with flow of new case filings and reduced the size of their pending caseloads.

Differences in appellate court systems include the extent to which filings are mandatory appeals or discretionary petitions and the percentage of discretionary petitions that are granted. Two-tier appellate systems differ in the degree to which they conform to the pattern in which the COLR has discretionary control of its docket and the IAC hears mandatory appeals.

Among trial court systems, there was broad similarity in the rate of civil case filings per 100,000 population. Rates of criminal case filing were more varied, but a middle range could be identified. For civil, criminal, and juvenile cases, states shared problems of increasing pending caseloads. Fewer cases were disposed of than were filed. The resulting problems are more acute in most states for criminal and juvenile cases than for civil cases.

State trial court systems differed in the rate at which juvenile petitions were filed during 1987. Compared to civil and criminal cases, the variation in juvenile filings was substantial. Trial court systems also differ in the use made of general and limited jurisdiction courts to hear cases.

Many of the similarities and differences reflect the manner in which states allocate the jurisdiction to hear and decide various types of cases to their appellate and trial courts. Differences in court structure, however, are not strongly related to either filing or clearance rates. Trial courts in a one-tier system, for example, are not more or less likely than courts in a two-tier system to keep pace with their incoming caseloads.

Court filings and court clearance rates do not form clear regional patterns. There is also no clear evidence linking court caseloads to the state population size or to other state characteristics. It is possible, of course, that subtle patterns exist but would only emerge through more systematic comparisons than were possible in this commentary. Also, the similarities and differences discussed are based both on real variation in filing rates and variation due to how cases are categorized and counted.

The analysis of trends, which allows each state to serve as its own point of comparison, produced more patterns. National appellate filings and national trial court filings both increased during 1987. The slight rise in total civil filings and the more substantial rise in total criminal filings apply to the specific categories of torts, general civil, and felonies. Over the 1981-87 period, tort and general civil filings fluctuated.

Tort filing rates fluctuate from year to year in most states. An underlying upward trend is identifiable for some states over the 1981-87 period. No state registered a clear and consistent downward trend. Tort filing rates were more likely to increase in some years than others, but the available evidence does not support conclusions about national patterns.

A strong upward trend in felony filing rates can be identified for the 1981-87 period. The result was a substantial increase in the number of serious offenses reaching state trial courts.

Appendix to Part I

TABLE 1.1: Tort Filings in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1987

State/Court name:	1981			1984			1985		
	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:									
ALASKA Superior Court	nc		--	nc		--	2,096		402
ARIZONA Superior Court	N/A		--	9,173		300	10,748		337
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	N/A		--	N/A		--	5,382		228
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	80,970		335	97,068		379	112,049		425
COLORADO District and Denver Superior Courts	5,089		172	4,199		132	4,537		140
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	11,471		366	12,391		393	12,742		401
FLORIDA Circuit Court	nc		--	26,815	1	244	29,864	1	263
HAWAII Circuit Court	1,468	1	150	1,611	1	155	1,676	1	159
IDAHO District Court	1,744	1	182	1,729	1	173	2,010	1	200
KANSAS District Court	4,517		190	4,033		165	4,061		166
MAINE Superior Court	1,914		169	2,083		180	2,072		178
MARYLAND Circuit Court	nc		--	10,826	1	249	10,120	1	230
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	N/A		--	15,151	1	261	14,405	1	247
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	N/A		--	23,186	1	255	23,742		261
MISSOURI Circuit Court	N/A		--	9,259	1	185	9,678	1	192
MONTANA District Court	nc		--	1,640	C	199	1,870	C	226
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	41,376	1	558	41,722	1	555	42,141	1	557
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	39,234		223	37,847		213	35,549		200
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	N/A		--	N/A		--	8,062	C	129
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	516		78	550		80	512		75
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	21,906		203	22,149		206	25,518		238
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	12,046		261	11,775		250	12,565		264
TEXAS District Court	28,698		194	34,224		214	37,596		230
UTAH District Court	nc		--	1,433	C	87	1,245	C	76
WASHINGTON Superior Court	7,919		188	8,997		207	9,747		221
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	3,760	C	118	3,968	C	121	4,388	C	134
Limited jurisdiction courts:									
ALASKA District Court	nc		--	nc		--	860	1	165
HAWAII District Court	1,037		106	693		67	652		62
OHIO County Court	705		7	519		5	464		4
OHIO Municipal Court	18,992		176	13,503		126	12,992		121
PUERTO RICO District Court	1,813	C	57	1,550	C	47	1,579	C	48
TEXAS County-Level Courts	nc		--	nc		--	8,242		50

APPENDIX TABLE 1.1: Tort filings in the state trial courts, 1981-1987.

State/Court name:	1986		1987	
	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:				
ALASKA Superior Court	2,344	440	1,664	317
ARIZONA Superior Court	11,888	358	12,260	362
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	5,541	234	5,606	235
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	130,206	483	137,455	497
COLORADO District and Denver Superior Court	6,145 (Q)	188	3,666 (Q)	111
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	13,754	431	15,385	479
FLORIDA Circuit Court	35,535	304	35,453	295
HAWAII Circuit Court	1,749 I	165	1,785 I	165
IDAHO District Court	2,118 I	211	1,757 I	176
KANSAS District Court	4,274	174	4,380	177
MAINE Superior Court	2,044	174	1,786	150
MARYLAND Circuit Court	12,373 I	277	12,938 I	285
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	15,040 I	258	14,251 I	243
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	27,046	296	29,756	323
MISSOURI Circuit Court	10,746 I	212	10,483 I	205
MONTANA District Court	1,836 C	224	1,792 C	222
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	45,547 I	598	42,662 I	608
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	32,011	180	34,249	181
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	8,897 C	140	8,981 C	140
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	561	83	551	82
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	28,225	262	29,375	272
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	13,167	274	13,597	280
TEXAS District Court	38,238	229	40,764	243
UTAH District Court	2,527 C	152	1,335 C	79
WASHINGTON Superior Court	19,515	437	8,007	176
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	4,558 C	140	4,811 C	147
Limited jurisdiction courts:				
ALASKA District Court	4,069 I	763	1,071 I	204
HAWAII District Court	738	69	937	87
OHIO County Court	463	4	406	4
OHIO Municipal Court	13,999	130	15,505	144
PUERTO RICO District Court	1,779 C	54	1,729 C	53
TEXAS County-Level Courts	9,833	59	11,314	67

(continued on next page)

APPENDIX TABLE 1.1: Tort filings in the state trial courts, 1981-1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Percent change in tort filings per 100,000 population 1981-1987	Percent change in tort filings per 100,000 population 1986-1987
General jurisdiction courts:		
ALASKA Superior Court	--	-28%
ARIZONA Superior Court	--	1%
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	--	0%
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	48%	3%
COLORADO District and Denver Superior Court	-35%	-41%
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	31%	11%
FLORIDA Circuit Court	--	-3%
HAWAII Circuit Court	10%	0%
IDAHO District Court	3%	-17%
KANSAS District Court	-7%	2%
MAINE Superior Court	-11%	-14%
MARYLAND Circuit Court	--	3%
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	--	-6%
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	--	9%
MISSOURI Circuit Court	--	-3%
MONTANA District Court	--	1%
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	9%	2%
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	-19%	1%
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	--	0%
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	5%	-1%
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	34%	4%
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	7%	2%
TEXAS District Court	49%	6%
UTAH District Court	--	-48%
WASHINGTON Superior Court	-6%	-60%
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	25%	5%
Limited jurisdiction courts:		
ALASKA District Court	--	-73%
HAWAII District Court	-18%	2%
OHIO County Court	-43%	0%
OHIO Municipal Court	-18%	10%
PUERTO RICO District Court	-7%	-2%
TEXAS County-Level Courts	--	14%

N/A = Data are unavailable.
-- = Data element is not applicable.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

nc: The following courts' data are not comparable:

Alaska--Superior and District Courts--The 1981 and 1984 data are not comparable to the 1985, 1986, 1987 data because torts are separated from the unclassified civil figure in significantly greater quantities during 1985, 1986 and 1987 than in previous years.

Florida--Circuit Court--There were 21,063 new filings in 1981, but they did not include reopened cases; therefore, the 1981 data are not comparable with the 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987 data.

Maryland--Circuit Court--Tort filings for 1981 could not be separated from other civil filings.

Montana--District Court--1981 data are not comparable with 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987 data due to changes in reporting.

Texas--County-Level Courts--Tort filings for 1981 and 1984 do not include data from Harris County (i.e., Houston).

Utah--District Court--Tort filings for 1981 could not be separated from other civil filings.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Montana--District Court--Tort filings include some civil appeals cases for 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987.

North Carolina--Superior Court--Tort filings include some miscellaneous civil cases for 1985, 1986, and 1987.

Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Tort filings include transfers and reopened cases.
--District Court--Tort filings include transfers and reopened cases.

Utah--District Court--Tort filings include de novo appeals from the Justice of the Peace Courts.

i: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:

Alaska--District Court--Data do not include filings in the low volume District Courts, which are reported with unclassified civil cases.

Florida--Circuit Court--Data for 1984 and 1985 do not include professional tort cases reported with other civil cases.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Data do not include a small number of District Court transfers reported with other civil cases.

Idaho--District Court--Data do not include some filings reported with unclassified civil cases. The unclassified figures for 1985, 1986, and 1987 respectively are: 20,644, 21,281, and 22,202.

Maryland--Circuit Court--Data do not include some filings reported with unclassified civil cases. The unclassified figures for 1985, 1986, and 1987 respectively are: 1,438, 976, and 1,829.

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Tort filings do not include some cases which are reported with unclassified civil data.

Michigan--Circuit Court--Tort filings are unavailable in 1984 for Hillsdale County, Osceola County, Kalkaska County, and Delta County.

Missouri--Circuit Court--Data do not include filings from St. Louis County and do not include torts filed in the associate divisions with civil jurisdiction under $5,000. 1984 and 1985 data also do not include filings from Boone County.

New Jersey--Superior Court--Data do not include some torts reported with unclassified civil cases. The unclassified figures for 1985, 1986, and 1987 respectively are: 40,026, 46,865, and 44,850.

(Q): Additional court information:

Colorado--District and Denver Superior Court--The Denver Superior Court was abolished 11/14/86 and the caseload absorbed by the District Court.

TABLE 1.2: Total Civil and Tort Filings in State Trial Courts, 1985-1987

	1985					
	Civil			Tort		
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA Superior Court	18,315	E	3,515	2,096		402
ARIZONA Superior Court	97,262	1	3,052	10,748		337
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	33,637		1,426	5,382		228
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	626,496		2,376	112,049		425
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	89,995		2,785	4,537		140
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	150,323	E	4,736	12,742		401
FLORIDA Circuit Court	421,694		3,710	29,864	1	263
HAWAII Circuit Court	26,283	C	2,494	1,676	1	159
IDAHO District Court	60,347		6,005	2,010	1	200
KANSAS District Court	124,995		5,102	4,061		166
MAINE Superior Court	7,199		618	2,072		178
MARYLAND Circuit Court	99,842		2,273	10,120	1	230
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	149,316		1,643	23,742		261
MINNESOTA District Court	205,241	C	4,895	--		--
MISSOURI Circuit Court	224,651	0	4,467	9,678	1	192
MONTANA District Court	27,648	C	3,347	1,870	C	226
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	597,399	1	7,900	42,141	1	557
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	126,776	0	713	35,549		200
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	87,670		1,402	8,062	C	129
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	14,239		2,079	512		75
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	290,520	E	2,704	25,518		238
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Courts	104,430	C	2,193	12,565		264
TEXAS District Court	451,035	C	2,755	37,596		230
UTAH District Court	30,009	C	1,824	1,245	C	76
WASHINGTON Superior Court	122,505	C	2,779	9,747		221
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	62,393	0	1,910	4,388	C	134
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA District Court	24,046		4,615	860	1	165
FLORIDA County Court	323,241		2,844	--		--
HAWAII District Court	20,622		1,957	652		62
OHIO County Court	24,542		228	464		4
OHIO Municipal Court	326,127		3,035	12,992		121
TEXAS County-Level Courts.......	161,754	C	988	8,242		50
PUERTO RICO District Court	46,074	C	1,410	1,579	C	48

NOTE: The footnoting scheme has been consolidated. Footnotes for 1985 and 1986 have been translated into the footnote scheme for 1987.

-- = Data element is not applicable.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Civil filings include criminal postconviction remedy proceedings and some criminal and traffic/other violation cases.

Minnesota--District Court--Civil filings for 1985 include cases from the County Court and Conciliation and Probate Division and County Municipal Court which merged with the District Court in 1985.

Montana--District Court--Civil filings include appeals of trial court cases. Tort filings include some civil appeals cases for 1985, 1986, and 1987.

North Carolina--Superior Court--Tort filings include some miscellaneous civil cases.

Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Tort filings include transfers and reopened cases.

--District Court--Civil and tort filings include transfers and reopened cases.

Tennesee--Circuit Court, Criminal and Chancery Court--Civil filings for 1987 include postconviction remedy proceedings and miscellaneous criminal cases.

Texas--District Court--Civil filings for 1987 include some juvenile cases.

--County-Level Courts--Civil filings include some juvenile cases.

Utah--District Court--Civil filings include some postconviction remedy proceedings. Tort filings include de novo appeals from the Justice of the Peace Courts.

APPENDIX TABLE 1.2: Total civil and tort filings in state trial courts, 1985-1987.

	1986					
	Civil			Tort		
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA Superior Court	16,506	E	3,097	2,344		440
ARIZONA Superior Court	102,140		3,077	11,888		358
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	35,784		1,509	5,541		234
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	654,283		2,425	130,206		483
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	105,688		3,235	6,145		188
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	154,581	E	4,847	13,754		431
FLORIDA Circuit Court	442,809		3,793	35,535		304
HAWAII Circuit Court	26,171	C	2,462	1,749	1	165
IDAHO District Court	60,121		6,000	2,118	1	211
KANSAS District Court	134,131		5,452	4,274		174
MAINE Superior Court	6,622		565	2,044		174
MARYLAND Circuit Court	106,716		2,391	12,373	1	277
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	154,327		1,688	27,046		296
MINNESOTA District Court	233,927		5,551	10,356		246
MISSOURI Circuit Court	237,782	0	4,694	10,746	1	212
MONTANA District Court	28,212	C	3,445	1,836	C	224
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	624,828	1	8,200	45,547	1	598
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	120,038	0	675	32,011		180
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	92,031		1,453	8,897	C	140
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	15,085		2,222	561		83
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	324,779	E	3,020	28,225		262
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Courts	106,890	C	2,225	13,167		274
TEXAS District Court	419,434	C	2,514	38,238		229
UTAH District Court	33,042	C	1,985	2,527	C	152
WASHINGTON Superior Court	135,933	C	3,046	19,515		437
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	68,295	0	2,086	4,558	C	140
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA District Court	26,328		4,940	4,069	1	763
FLORIDA County Court	349,645		2,995	42,229		362
HAWAII District Court	21,263		2,000	738		69
OHIO County Court	23,759		221	463		4
OHIO Municipal Court	342,714		3,187	13,999		130
TEXAS County-Level Courts.......	178,265	C	1,068	9,833		59
PUERTO RICO District Court	46,911	C	1,433	1,779	C	54

APPENDIX TABLE 1.2: Total civil and tort filings in state trial courts, 1985-1987.

	1987					
	Civil			Tort		
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA Superior Court	15,168	E	2,889	1,664		317
ARIZONA Superior Court	101,148		2,987	12,260		362
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	36,401		1,524	5,606		235
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	674,912		2,440	137,455		497
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	104,614		3,174	3,666		111
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	147,347	O	4,589	15,385		479
FLORIDA Circuit Court	444,952		3,701	35,453		295
HAWAII Circuit Court	26,031	C	2,404	1,785	1	165
IDAHO District Court	57,605		5,772	1,757	1	176
KANSAS District Court	140,586		5,678	4,380		177
MAINE Superior Court	6,079		512	1,884		159
MARYLAND Circuit Court	106,193		2,342	12,938	1	285
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	170,541		1,854	29,756		323
MINNESOTA District Court	231,244		5,446	10,739		253
MISSOURI Circuit Court	248,190	E	4,864	10,483	1	205
MONTANA District Court	26,816	1	3,315	1,792	C	222
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	638,975	1	8,329	46,671	1	608
NEW YORK Supreme and County Courts	121,443	O	681	34,249		192
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	97,979		1,547	8,981	C	140
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	15,382		2,265	551		82
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	337,637	E	3,131	29,375		272
TENNESSEE Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Courts	111,102	C	2,288	13,597		280
TEXAS District Court	442,052	C	2,633	40,764		243
UTAH District Court	29,543	E	1,440	1,335	C	79
WASHINGTON Superior Court	129,842	E	2,853	8,007		176
PUERTO RICO Superior Court	65,146	O	1,979	4,811	C	146
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
ALASKA District Court	24,184		4,606	1,071	1	204
FLORIDA County Court	361,130		3,004	52,491		437
HAWAII District Court	22,676		2,094	937		87
OHIO County Court	23,604		219	406		4
OHIO Municipal Court	362,789		3,364	15,505		144
TEXAS County-Level Courts.......	197,414	C	1,176	11,314		67
PUERTO RICO District Court	46,886	C	1,424	1,729	C	53

(continued on next page)

E: The following courts' data include postconviction remedy proceedings:
  Alaska--Superior Court
  Connecticut--Superior Court
  Ohio--Court of Common Pleas
  Missouri--Circuit Court
  Washington--Superior Court
  Utah--District Court

I: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
  Alaska--District Court--Tort filings do not include cases from low-volume District Courts, which are reported with other civil cases.
  Arizona--Superior Court--Civil filings for 1985 do not include mental health cases.
  Florida--Circuit Court--Tort filings for 1985 do not include professional tort cases, which are reported with the unclassified civil data.
  Hawaii--Circuit Court--Tort filings do not include a small number of District Court transfers reported with unclassified civil data.
  Idaho--District Court--Tort filings do not include some cases that are reported with unclassified civil data. The unclassified figures for 1985, 1986, and 1987 respectively are 20,644, 21,281, and 22,202.
  Maryland--Circuit Court--Tort filings do not include some cases that are reported with unclassified civil data. The unclassified figures for 1985, 1986, and 1987 respectively are 1,438, 976, and 1,829.
  Missouri--Circuit Court--Tort data do not include filings from St. Louis County and do not include torts filed in the associate divisions with civil jurisdiction under $5,000. 1985 data also do not include tort filings from Boone County.
  Montana--District Court--Civil filings do not include some appeals of trial court cases.
  New Jersey--Superior Court--Tort filings do not include some cases that are reported with unclassified civil data. The unclassified figures for 1985, 1986, and 1987 respectively are 40,026, 46,865, and 44,850. Civil filings do not include a few domestic relations cases.

O: The following courts' data are 75% complete and are overinclusive:
  Connecticut--Superior Court--Civil filings for 1987 include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include mental health cases.
  Missouri--Circuit Court--Civil filings for 1985 and 1986 include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some domestic relations cases.
  New York--Supreme and County Court--Civil filings include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include civil appeals cases.
  Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Civil filings for 1985 and 1986 include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include estate cases. Civil filings for 1987 include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include URESA cases.

TABLE 1.3: General Civil Filings in the State Trial Courts, 1981-1987

	1981		1984		1985	
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population
General jurisdiction courts:						
ALABAMA Circuit Court	28,460 C	727	29,650 C	743	32,447 C	807
ALASKA Superior Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	4,906	942
ARIZONA Superior Court	nc	nc	29,580	5,916	33,143	1,040
ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate Courts	7,545	329	5,151	219	6,117	259
Circuit Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	30,475	1,292
COLORADO District, Denver Superior and Juvenile and Probate Courts	36,168	1,220	32,032	1,008	35,928	1,112
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	47,286	1,490
DELAWARE Superior Court	2,522 C	422	2,520 C	411	2,564 C	412
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	108,426	17,183	96,975	15,566	93,877	14,996
HAWAII Circuit Court	3,830 i	390	3,992 i	384	3,764 i	357
KANSAS District Court	54,005 i	2,266	57,140 i	2,344	62,501 i	2,551
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	47,917	527
MONTANA District Court	nc	nc	6,651	807	7,347	889
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	13,756 C	231	12,482 C	202	13,654 C	218
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	5,632	856	5,674	827	5,713	834
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	23,442	508	21,505	456	22,529	473
TEXAS District Court	68,451	464	85,873	537	95,659	584
UTAH District Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	3,856 C	234
WASHINGTON Superior Court	34,922	828	33,140	762	36,904	837
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
ALABAMA District Court	55,818	1,425	51,805	1,298	44,326	1,102
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	53,650	1,683
COLORADO County Court	45,423 i	1,532	65,485 i	2,061	72,174 i	2,234
DELAWARE Court of Common Pleas .	3,740	625	3,755	613	3,498	562
HAWAII District Court	13,549	1,381	13,968	1,344	14,974	1,421
INDIANA County Court	5,573	102	3,664	67	4,407 i	80
KENTUCKY District Court	57,627	1,574	56,359	1,514	52,997	1,422
MAINE District Court	nc	nc	16,146 C	1,397	15,901 C	1,366
MICHIGAN District Court	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	230,055 i	2,531
MICHIGAN Municipal Court	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	869 i	10
NEBRASKA County Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	22,571 C	1,405
NEW HAMPSHIRE District Court ...	10,382	1,109	9,815	1,005	9,566	959
NEW MEXICO Magistrate Court	14,117	1,063	18,308	1,286	16,633	1,147
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	8,290	624	9,744	684	8,465	584
NEW YORK Civil Court of the City of New York	151,159	859	195,163	1,100	189,790	1,067
Court of Claims	1,330	8	1,678	9	1,953	11
District and City Courts	nc	nc	nc	nc	65,263	367
NORTH CAROLINA District Court ..	52,100	875	45,636	740	42,864	685
NORTH DAKOTA County Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	5,534 C	808
OHIO Municipal Court	260,068 i	2,412	221,523 i	2,060	225,593 i	2,100
County Court	11,302 i	105	9,542 i	89	9,316 i	87
OREGON District Court	33,862	1,277	24,518	917	26,299	979
PENNSYLVANIA District Justice Court	nc	nc	183,143	1,539	194,610	1,642
RHODE ISLAND District Court	23,689	2,486	18,759	1,950	21,396	2,210
TEXAS Justice of the Peace Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	204,952 V	1,252
UTAH Circuit Court	nc	nc	nc	nc	39,838	2,422

APPENDIX TABLE 1.3: General civil filings in the state trial courts, 1981-1987

State/Court name:	1986		1987		Percentage change in filings per 100,000 population 1981-1987	Percentage change in filings per 100,000 population 1986-1987
	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 population		
General jurisdiction courts:						
ALABAMA Circuit Court	33,984 C	839	37,050 C	907	25%	8%
ALASKA Superior Court	2,998	562	3,582	682	--	21%
ARIZONA Superior Court	38,224	1,152	38,537	1,138	--	9%
ARKANSAS Chancery and Probate Courts	7,027	296	7,027	294	-11%	-1%
Circuit Court	32,495	1,370	32,761	1,372	--	0%
COLORADO District, Denver Superior, and Juvenile and Probate Courts	47,787	1,463	50,474	1,531	25%	5%
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	50,474	1,583	57,883	1,803	--	14%
DELAWARE Superior Court	2,950 C	466	2,870 C	446	5%	-4%
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	91,918	14,707	86,006	13,827	-20%	-6%
HAWAII Circuit Court	3,780 i	356	3,672 i	339	-13%	-5%
KANSAS District Court	70,449	2,864	72,547	2,930	29%	2%
MICHIGAN Circuit Court	61,611	674	61,036	663	--	-2%
MONTANA District Court	7,633	932	6,803	841	--	-10%
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court ..	14,842 C	234	14,995 C	234	1%	0%
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	5,974	880	5,792	862	1%	-2%
TENNESSEE Circuit and Chancery Courts	23,568	491	24,504	505	1%	3%
TEXAS District Court	94,258	565	98,036	584	26%	3%
UTAH District Court	3,838	231	2,399	143	--	-38%
WASHINGTON Superior Court	47,289	1,060	36,078	795	4%	-25%
Limited jurisdiction courts:						
ALABAMA District Court	44,492	1,198	45,980	1,126	-21%	-6%
ARIZONA Justice of the Peace Court	64,036	1,929	68,082	2,011	--	4%
COLORADO County Court	122,683	3,755	93,674	2,842	86%	-24%
DELAWARE Court of Common Pleas .	5,190	820	4,605	715	14%	-13%
HAWAII District Court	15,497	1,458	16,902	1,561	13%	7%
INDIANA County Court.	4,991 i	91	4,901	89	-13%	-2%
KENTUCKY District Court	60,598	1,625	67,400	1,808	15%	11%
MAINE District Court	15,771	1,345	17,086	1,439	--	7%
MICHIGAN District Court	258,920	2,831	273,323	2,971	--	5%
MICHIGAN Municipal Court	900	10	671	7	--	-30%
NEBRASKA County Court	33,304	2,085	32,173	2,018	--	-3%
NEW HAMPSHIRE District Court ...	10,804	1,052	12,491	1,181	6%	12%
NEW MEXICO Magistrate Court	15,415	1,042	13,326	888	16%	15%
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	9,237	625	8,408	561	-10%	-11%
NEW YORK Civil Court of the City of New York	196,216	1,104	196,257	1,101	22%	0%
Court of Claims	2,290	13	2,072	12	50%	-8%
District and City Courts	87,234	491	83,618	469	--	-4%
NORTH CAROLINA District Court ..	44,295	699	45,387	708	-19%	1%
NORTH DAKOTA County Court	4,908	723	4,302	640	--	-11%
OHIO Municipal Court	237,516 i	2,210	176,113 i	1,633	-31%	-26%
County Court	9,031 i	84	8,041 i	75	-29%	-11%
OREGON District Court	31,268	1,160	31,805	1,168	-9%	1%
PENNSYLVANIA District Justice Court	198,615	1,671	203,752	1,707	--	2%
RHODE ISLAND District Court	21,116	2,166	19,899	2,018	-19%	-7%
TEXAS Justice of the Peace Court	210,171 V	1,249	221,989 i	1,322	--	6%
UTAH Circuit Court.............	49,452	2,970	55,546	3,306	--	11%

(continued on next page)

APPENDIX TABLE 1.3: General civil filings in the state trial courts, 1981-1987 (continued)

N/A = Data are not available.
-- = Data element is not applicable.
nc = Data are not comparable with other years.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
Alabama--Circuit Court--Data include civil appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings.
Delaware--Superior Court--Data include administrative agency appeals.
Maine--District Court--1981-1985 data include some domestic relations and juvenile cases.
Nebraska--County Court--Data for 1985 include cases from the Municipal Court from July 1, 1985, to December 31, 1985.
North Carolina--Superior Court--1981-1985 data include administrative agency appeals. 1986 and 1987 data include miscellaneous civil cases.
North Dakota--County Court--1985 data include criminal appeals cases.
Utah--District Court--1985 data include de novo appeals.

I: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
Colorado--County Court--1981-1985 data do not include cases from Denver County Court.
Hawaii--Circuit Court--Data do not include "unreported cases."
Indiana--County Court--Data do not include "other" cases or "redocketed civil" cases for 1985 and 1986.
Kansas--District Court--1981-1985 data do not include all real property rights cases.
Michigan--District Court--Data for 1985 do not include cases from the city of Dearborn.
Michigan--Municipal Court--1985 data do not include cases from the city of Dearborn. Municipal Courts for Grosse Pointe Municipal and Grosse Pointe Shores did not report 1985 data.
Ohio--Municipal Court and County Court--Data do not include cases classified as miscellaneous civil.
Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Data for 1987 represent a reporting rate of 79%

V: The following court's data are less than 75% complete:
Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Data for 1985 and 1986 represent a reporting rate of 73% and 74% respectively.

TABLE 1.4: Felony Filings in State Trial Courts, 1981-1987

	1981		1984		1985	
State/Court name:	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 adult population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 adult population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes	Filings per 100,000 adult population
General jurisdiction courts:						
ARIZONA Superior Court	14,357 1	720	15,360 1	700	17,295 1	748
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	14,565 G	891	17,993 G	1,060	21,425 G	1,251
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	64,993 G	366	74,412 G	392	82,372 G	422
COLORADO District Denver Superior Court Juvenile and Probate Courts	13,868	644	14,783	637	15,804	668
CONNECTICUT Superior Court ...	6,382 0	274	6,650 0	276	7,198 0	298
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	8,505	1,729	11,195	2,294	12,399	2,510
GEORGIA Superior Court	37,338	950	33,725	802	36,182	838
HAWAII Circuit Court	2,291 1	326	2,655 1	353	2,609 1	341
ILLINOIS Circuit Court	41,795	505	46,107 C	548	45,925 1	544
INDIANA Superior and Circuit Court			13,619 G	342	14,894 (Q)	373
IOWA District Court	8,166 C	309	7,658 C	360	7,970 C	378
KANSAS District Court	12,121	697	11,397	638	10,470	587
KENTUCKY Circuit Court	13,007 C	500	N/A		13,439 C	497
MAINE Superior Court	3,281	401	3,189	375	3,656	425
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	nc		N/A		5,279	118
MINNESOTA District Court	N/A		17,643	581	19,119	626
MISSOURI Circuit Court	N/A		N/A		41,935 C	1,133
MONTANA District Court	N/A		N/A		2,574 0	435
NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior Court .	3,652	537	3,813	526	4,198	563
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	29,101	533	37,135	656	37,784	663
NEW YORK Supreme & County Court	41,587 G	319	49,191 G	369	51,034 G	380
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	42,792	995	42,160	924	40,915	877
NORTH DAKOTA District Court ..	1,233 C	264	1,284 C	263	1,312 C	269
OHIO Court of Common Pleas ...	41,076	530	37,073	471	36,249	461
OKLAHOMA District Court	N/A		24,178 C	1,017	24,673 C	1,038
OREGON Circuit Court	20,198	1,045	19,913	1,013	20,682	1,047
RHODE ISLAND Superior Court ..	4,576	639	4,232	575	4,780	643
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit Court ...	2,654	548	2,606	521	3,088	615
TEXAS District Court	82,872	800	87,249	774	93,968	812
VERMONT District Court	3,021	810	1,837	471	1,897	480
Superior Court	34	9	8	2	6	2
VIRGINIA Circuit Court	40,444	1,017	42,642	1,013	43,096	1,011
WASHINGTON Superior Court	15,442	502	15,432	484	17,885	554
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit Court ..	N/A		4,724	332	4,707	331
WISCONSIN Circuit Court	14,601	428	13,607	390	14,549	417
WYOMING District Court	1,772 C	521	1,462	417	1,468	421

APPENDIX TABLE 1.4: Felony filings in state trial courts, 1981-1987.

General jurisdiction courts:

State/Court name:	1986			1987			Percent change in filings per 100,000 adult population 1986-1987	Percent change in filings per 100,000 adult population 1981-1987
	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 adult population	Number of filings and qualifying footnotes		Filings per 100,000 adult population		
ARIZONA Superior Court	20,653	1	858	21,444	1	869	1	21
ARKANSAS Circuit Court	21,944	G	1,271	24,805	G	1,426	12	60
CALIFORNIA Superior Court	94,779	G	477	104,906	G	515	8	41
COLORADO District Court, Denver Superior Court Juvenile and Probate Court	16,087		670	16,223		670	0	4
CONNECTICUT Superior Court	8,436	O	344	9,628	O	392	14	43
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Superior Court	16,207		3,321	19,986		4,112	24	138
GEORGIA Superior Court	37,146		846	N/A				
HAWAII Circuit Court	2,598	1	334	2,766	O	347	4	6
ILLINOIS Circuit Court	47,075	C	554	46,342	C	542	-2	7
INDIANA Superior and Circuit Court	18,436	G	458	16,905	G	416	-9	
IOWA District Court	7,692	C	366	8,230	C	392	7	27
KANSAS District Court	11,106		612	11,500		630	3	-10
KENTUCKY Circuit Court	13,380	C	492	nc				
MAINE Superior Court	3,583		411	3,612		409	0	2
MASSACHUSETTS Trial Court of the Commonwealth	5,893		131	6,790		150	15	
MINNESOTA District Court	19,707		635	21,834		696	10	
MISSOURI Circuit Court	44,989	C	1,197	49,017	C	1,292	8	
MONTANA District Court	2,591	O	441	2,443	O	418	-5	
NEW HAMPSHIRE Superior Court	4,857		633	5,527		699	10	30
NEW JERSEY Superior Court	38,443		644	41,198		705	6	32
NEW YORK Supreme and County Court	56,356	Q	421	62,940	G	467	11	46
NORTH CAROLINA Superior Court	44,980		955	51,210		1,070	12	8
NORTH DAKOTA District Court	1,390		284	1,487	C	307	8	16
OHIO Court of Common Pleas	38,374		486	39,376		495	2	-7
OKLAHOMA District Court	25,782	C	1,072	26,438	C	1,111	4	
OREGON Circuit Court	22,533		1,120	24,591		1,207	8	16
RHODE ISLAND Superior Court	4,360		583	4,278		565	-3	-12
SOUTH DAKOTA Circuit Court	3,182		624	3,275		638	2	16
TEXAS District Court	111,331		947	119,395		1,011	7	26
VERMONT District Court	2,177		543	2,111		519	-4	-36
Superior Court	1		0	85		21		133
VIRGINIA Circuit Court	45,646		1,050	49,481		1,113	6	9
WASHINGTON Superior Court	19,693		595	21,071		625	5	25
WEST VIRGINIA Circuit Court	4,546		321	4,885		347	8	
WISCONSIN Circuit Court	14,470		412	13,802		390	-5	-9
WYOMING District Court	1,466		415	1,353		396	-5	-24

APPENDIX TABLE 1.4: Felony filings in state trial courts, 1981-1987. (continued)

NOTE: The footnoting scheme has been consolidated. Footnotes for 1981, 1984, and 1985 have been translated into the footnote scheme for 1986 and 1987.

N/A = Data are not available

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Illinois--Circuit Court--Felony data include preliminary hearings for courts "downstate."
- Iowa--District Court--Felony data include third offense DWI/DUI cases.
- Kentucky--Circuit Court--Felony data include misdemeanor cases, sentence review only, and some postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Missouri--Circuit Court--Felony data include some DWI/DUI cases and include preliminary hearing proceedings, which are included in the main caseload tables in caseload reports before 1987. Table 10, Part II of the 1987 report excludes those preliminary hearing proceedings.
- North Dakota--District Court--Felony data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.
- Oklahoma--District Court--Felony data include some miscellaneous criminal cases.
- Wyoming--District Court--Felony data include criminal appeals.
- Indiana--Felony data include class D felonies, DWI/DUI cases, and ordinance violation cases.

G: The following courts' data include DWI/DUI cases:
- Arkansas--Circuit Court
- California--Superior Court
- Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court
- New York--Supreme and County Court

I: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
- Arizona--Superior Court--Felony data do not include some cases reported with unclassified criminal data.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Felony data do not include reopened prior cases.
- Illinois Circuit Court--Felony data do not include limited felony cases.

O: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:
- Connecticut--Superior Court--Felony data include preliminary hearing proceedings that were included in the main caseload tables in caseload reports before 1987. Table 10, Part II of the 1987 report excludes those preliminary hearing proceedings. Felony data do not include some cases reported with misdemeanor data.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Felony data include misdemeanor cases, but do not include reopened prior cases.
- Montana--District Court--Felony data include appeals of trial court cases, but do not include some cases reported with unclassified criminal data.

(Q): Additional information:
- District of Columbia--Superior Court--Reactivated and reinstated cases were added to new filings.
- Indiana--Superior and Circuit Court--Data are not comparable with previous years' figures, due to changes in classification of County Court function.
- Kansas--District Court--Case filings include both original actions and retrials/reinstated (reopened) cases.
- Maine--Superior Court--Data include cases that were refiled.
- Minnesota District Court--Data include reactivated cases.
- New York--Supreme and County Court--This court experienced a significant increase in the number of filings due to the change to an individual calendaring system in 1986.

Part II

1987 State Court Caseload Tables

TABLE 1: Reported National Caseload for State Appellate Courts, 1987

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
Courts of last resort:		
I. Mandatory jurisdiction cases:		
A. Number of reported complete cases	16,981	13,153
Number of courts reporting complete data	35	23
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting complete mandatory jurisdiction data	33	21
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by complete data	72%	49%
B. Number of reported complete cases that include some discretionary petitions	5,650	5,799
Number of courts reporting complete data with some discretionary petitions	9	11
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting complete mandatory jurisdiction data that include some discretionary petitions	9	11
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by complete data that include some discretionary petitions	9%	12%
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	1,655	1,218
Number of courts reporting incomplete data, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	5	5
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting either incomplete mandatory jurisdiction data or data that are both incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	5	5
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by incomplete data, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	17%	17%
II. Discretionary jurisdiction petitions:		
A. Number of reported complete petitions	30,368	26,263
Number of courts reporting complete petitions	33	26
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting complete discretionary jurisdiction petitions	31	24
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by complete data	70%	62%
B. Number of reported complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	995	5,345
Number of courts reporting complete petitions with some mandatory cases	1	4
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	1	4
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by complete data that include some mandatory cases		9%
C. Number of reported petitions that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	6,220	7,033
Number of courts reporting incomplete petitions, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	10	10
Number of states with courts of last resort reporting either incomplete petitions or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	10	10
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by incomplete data, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	17%	16%

(continued on next page)

TABLE 1: Reported national caseload for state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
Intermediate appellate courts:		
I. Mandatory jurisdiction cases:		
A. Number of reported complete cases	82,030	77,060
Number of courts reporting complete data	28	25
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting complete mandatory jurisdiction data	25	23
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by complete data	60%	57%
B. Number of reported complete cases that include some discretionary cases	47,824	54,328
Number of courts reporting complete data with some discretionary petitions	12	13
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting complete data that include some discretionary petitions	11	11
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by complete data that include some discretionary petitions	39%	37%
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	560	0
Number of courts reporting data that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	1	0
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting data that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	1	0
Percent of the total population of states with mandatory jurisdiction represented by data that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some discretionary petitions	1%	0%
II. Discretionary jurisdiction petitions:		
A. Number of reported complete petitions	16,320	14,424
Number of courts reporting complete petitions	16	12
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting complete discretionary jurisdiction petitions	14	11
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by complete data	52%	46%
B. Number of reported complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	0	1,743
Number of courts reporting complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	0	1
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting complete petitions that include some mandatory cases	0	1
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by complete data that include some mandatory cases	0%	3%
C. Number of reported petitions that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	358	340
Number of courts reporting incomplete data, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	2	1
Number of states with intermediate appellate courts reporting either incomplete petitions or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	2	1
Percent of the total population of states with discretionary jurisdiction represented by incomplete data, or incomplete and include some mandatory cases	4%	3%

Summary section for all appellate courts:

	Reported filings		
	COLR	IAC	Total
A. Number of reported complete cases/petitions	47,349	98,350	145,699
B. Number of reported complete cases/petitions that include other case types	6,645	47,824	54,469
C. Number of reported cases/petitions that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include other casetypes	7,876	918	8,794
Total	61,870	147,092	208,962

TABLE 2: Reported Total Caseload for All State Appellate Courts, 1987

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL	837	273		1,110	139		
Supreme Court	368	219	36	587	117	404	81
Court of Appeals	469	54	N/A	523	174		
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL	3,567*	1,046*		4,613	201		
Supreme Court	116[1]	995[C]	N/A	1,111	222		
Court of Appeals	3,451	51	N/A	3,502	195		
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL	1,408*			1,408	108		
Supreme Court	459[P]	(P)	N/A	459	66		
Court of Appeals	949	NH	NH	949	158	--	--
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL	10,300*	11,290	778*	21,590	257	11,078	132
Supreme Court	315[1]	4,558	224[1]	4,873	696	539	77
Courts of Appeal	9,985	6,732	554	16,717	217	10,539	137
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL	2,144	756		2,900	171		
Supreme Court	214	756	N/A	970	139		
Court of Appeals	1,930	NH	NH	1,930	193	--	--
CONNECTICUT--STATE TOTAL	1,003	195*		1,198	100		
Supreme Court	58	152[1]	N/A	210	30		
Appellate Court	945	43	N/A	988	198		
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL	14,442	3,552		17,994	340		
Supreme Court	581	1,270	N/A	1,851	264		
District Courts of Appeal	13,861	2,282	N/A	16,143	351		
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL	2,711*	1,739		4,450	278		
Supreme Court	640[C]	1,006	119[1]	1,646	235	759	108
Court of Appeals	2,071[C]	733	N/A	2,804	312		
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL	750*	57	10	807	101	760	95
Supreme Court	616[C]	57	10	673	135	626	125
Court of Appeals	134	NH	NH	134	45	134	45
IDAHO--STATE TOTAL	470*	82		552	69		
Supreme Court	289[C]	82	N/A	371	74		
Court of Appeals	181	NH	NH	181	60	--	--

	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL .	720	285		1,005			
Supreme Court	291	231	N/A	522		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	429	54	14	483	443	IAC	1
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL	3,458*	1,099*		4,557			
Supreme Court	86[1]	1,054[C]	101[C]	1,140	187	COLR	6
Court of Appeals ..	3,372	45	N/A	3,417		IAC	6
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL	1,399*			1,399	1,399		
Supreme Court	416[P]	(P)	(P)	416	416	COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	983	NH	NH	983	983	IAC	2
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL	10,742*	10,780		21,522			
Supreme Court	73[V]	4,004	N/A	4,077		COLR	6
Courts of Appeal ..	10,669	6,776	N/A	17,445		IAC	2
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL		1,036*		2,638			
Supreme Court	(C)	1,036[C]	N/A	1,036		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	1,602	NH	NH	1,602	--	IAC	1
CONNECTICUT--							
Supreme Court	(P)	293[P]	N/A	293		COLR	1
Appellate Court ...	893	N/A	N/A			IAC	1
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL	14,139	3,110		17,249			
Supreme Court	548	1,223	N/A	1,771		COLR	1
District Courts of Appeal	13,591	1,887	N/A	15,478		IAC	1
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL		2,225*					
Supreme Court	N/A	1,524[D]	N/A			COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	1,961[C]	701	N/A	2,662		IAC	2
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL .	721*	58		779			
Supreme Court	579[C]	58	N/A	637		COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	142	NH	NH	142	--	IAC	2
IDAHO--STATE TOTAL ..	469*	76		545			
Supreme Court	295[C]	76	N/A	371		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	174	NH	NH	174	--	IAC	4

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
ILLINOIS--STATE TOTAL	8,522*			10,195	249		
Supreme Court	568	1,673	152	2,241	320	720	103
Appellate Court	7,954[C]	(C)	N/A	7,954	234		
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL	1,558*			1,962	392		
Supreme Court	409	404	N/A	813	163		
Court of Appeals	1,149[C]	(C)	N/A	1,149	96		
IOWA--STATE TOTAL	1,495*	327*		1,822	121		
Supreme Court	877[C]	327[1]	N/A	1,204	134		
Court of Appeals	618	NH	NH	618	103	--	--
KANSAS--STATE TOTAL	1,341*					1,482	87
Supreme Court	214	N/A	141			355	51
Court of Appeals	1,127[C]	N/A	(C)			1,127	113
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL	2,952	783*		3,735	178		
Supreme Court	261	693[1]	N/A	954	136		
Court of Appeals	2,691	90	N/A	2,781	199		
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL	3,981	6,214	1,655	10,195	185	5,636	103
Supreme Court	135	2,673	553	2,808	401	688	98
Courts of Appeal	3,846	3,541	1,102	7,387	154	4,948	103
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL	1,947*	949	124	2,896	145	2,071	104
Court of Appeals	233[C]	655	104	888	127	337	48
Court of Special Appeals	1,714	294	20	2,008	154	1,734	133
MASSACHUSETTS--STATE TOTAL ..	1,506*			1,842	108		
Supreme Judicial Court	72	336	208	408	58	280	40
Appeals Court	1,434[C]	(C)	N/A	1,434	143		
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL	8,191*			10,273	411		
Supreme Court	5	2,082	60	2,087	298	65	9
Court of Appeals	8,186[C]	(C)	N/A	8,186	455		
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL	2,165	974*	213*	3,139	157	2,378	119
Supreme Court	241	626	104	867	124	345	49
Court of Appeals	1,924	348[1]	109[1]	2,272	175	2,033	156
MISSOURI--STATE TOTAL	3,148*	1,033	79	4,181	107	3,227	83
Supreme Court	93	1,033	79	1,126	161	172	25
Court of Appeals	3,055	NH	NH	3,055	96	3,055	96

	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
ILLINOIS--STATE TOTAL	8,007[*]			9,640			
Supreme Court	556	1,633	138	2,189	694	COLR	1
Appellate Court ...	7,451[C]	(C)	N/A	7,451		IAC	1
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL	1,514[*]			1,951[*]			
Supreme Court	384	437	56	821	440	COLR	6
Court of Appeals ..	1,130[C]	(C)	N/A	1,130		IAC	6
IOWA--STATE TOTAL ...	1,522[*]	317[*]	58[*]	1,839	1,580		
Supreme Court	944[C]	317[1]	58[1]	1,261	1,002	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	578	NH	NH	578	578	IAC	4
KANSAS--STATE TOTAL .	1,476[*]						
Supreme Court	333	N/A	N/A			COLR	5
Court of Appeals ..	1,143[C]	(C)	N/A	1,143		IAC	5
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL	2,575	777[*]		3,352			
Supreme Court	271	706[1]	N/A	977		COLR	6
Court of Appeals ..	2,304	71	N/A	2,375		IAC	3
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL	3,503	6,220	1,627	9,723	5,130		
Supreme Court	123	2,660	552	2,783	675	COLR	2
Courts of Appeal ..	3,380	3,460	1,075	6,840	4,455	IAC	2
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL	1,999[*]	856		2,855			
Court of Appeals ..	222[C]	562	N/A	784		COLR	2
Court of Special Appeals	1,777	294	N/A	2,071		IAC	2
MASSACHUSETTS--							
Supreme Court	(C)	N/A	283[C]			COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	N/A	N/A	N/A			IAC	2
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL				9,670			
Supreme Court	(C)	2,168[C]	N/A	2,168		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	7,502[C]	(C)	N/A	7,502		IAC	1
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL	2,120	895[*]	220	3,015	2,340		
Supreme Court	204	555	115	759	319	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	1,916	340[1]	105[1]	2,256	2,0[illegible]	IAC	1
MISSOURI--STATE TOTAL	3,392[*]	997[*]		4,522			
Supreme Court	133[C]	997[1]	N/A	1,130		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	3,259	NH	NH	3,259	--	IAC	1

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL	6,626*					6,695	191
Supreme Court	349	1,382[1]	119[1]	1,731	247	468	67
Appellate Division of Superior Court	6,277[C]	N/A	(C)			6,227	178
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL	1,682	358	51	2,040	170	1,743	145
Supreme Court	1,078	301	45	1,379	276	1,123	225
Court of Appeals	604	57	16	661	94	620	89
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL .	1,446*	1,159	131*	2,605	137	1,577	83
Supreme Court	181	676	60	857	122	241	34
Court of Appeals	1,265[C]	483	71[C]	1,748	146	1,336	111
OHIO--STATE TOTAL	10,405	1,846	194	12,251	189	10,599	163
Supreme Court	422	1,846	194	2,268	324	616	88
Court of Appeals	9,983	NH	NH	9,983	172	9,963	172
OREGON--STATE TOTAL	4,481	1,086	137	5,567	328	4,618	272
Supreme Court	176	1,086	137	1,262	180	313	45
Court of Appeals	4,305	NH	NH	4,305	431	4,305	431
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL	951	32*	32	983	89	983	89
Supreme Court	511	32[1]	32	543	109	543	109
Court of Appeals	440	NH	NH	440	73	440	73
UTAH--STATE TOTAL	1,034*	40*		1,074	90		
Supreme Court	474	30	N/A	504	101		
Court of Appeals	560[1]	10[1]	N/A	570	81		
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL		2,642	416*				
Supreme Court	N/A	1,441	156				
Court of Appeals	422	1,201	260[1]	1,623	162	682	68
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL	3,373*	1,497*		4,870	195		
Supreme Court	135[P]	1,151[P]	N/A	1,286	143		
Court of Appeals	3,238	346	N/A	3,584	224		
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL	2,185	1,090		3,275	164		
Supreme Court	NH	869	206	869	124	--	--
Court of Appeals	2,185	221	N/A	2,406	185		
STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	397[C]	4[1]	(C)	401	80	397	79
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Court of Appeals	1,500	96	4	1,596	177	1,504	167

	Total cases disposed			Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions petitions granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL	6,781*						
Supreme Court	381	1,411[1]	N/A	1,792		COLR	1
Appellate Division of Superior Court	6,400^{C}	N/A	(C)		6,400	IAC	1
NEW MEXICO--							
Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A			COLR	5
Court of Appeals ..	853^{C}	(C)	N/A	853		IAC	5
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL	1,502*	1,120		2,622			
Supreme Court	192	637	61	829	253	COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	1,310^{C}	483	N/A	1,793		IAC	2
OHIO--STATE TOTAL ...	9,773	1,598	181	11,371	9,574		
Supreme Court	380	1,598	181	1,978	561	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	9,393	NH	NH	9,393	9,393	IAC	1
OREGON--STATE TOTAL .	4,545*	1,042		5,587	4,545		
Supreme Court	313^{C}	1,042	(C)	1,355	313	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	4,232	NH	NH	4,232	4,232	IAC	1
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL	964*			964			
Supreme Court	596^{C}	(C)	N/A	596		COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	368	NH	NH	368	--	IAC	4
UTAH--							
Supreme Court	521C	(C)	N/A	521		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	N/A	N/A	N/A			IAC	1
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL		2,912*					
Supreme Court	N/A	1,169	N/A			COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	(C)	1,743^{C}	N/A	1,743		IAC	1
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL	4,018*	1,481*		5,499			
Supreme Court	148^{P}	1,093^{P}	68	1,241	216	COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	3,870	388	N/A	4,258		IAC	1
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL	2,206*	913		3,119			
Supreme Court	NH	725	219	725	--	COLR	5
Court of Appeals ..	2,206	188	N/A	2,394		IAC	1
			STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT				
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	419^{C}	4[1]	N/A	423		COLR	1
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Court of Appeals ..	1,595	87	1	1,682	1,596	COLR	1

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

	Total cases filed						
				Totals			
				Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions		Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted	Number	Filed per judge	Number	Filed per judge
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	631[P]	(P)	N/A	631	90		
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court	891	2	N/A	893	99		
MONTANA--Supreme Court	546	25	N/A	571	82		
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	1,196[C]	(C)	N/A	1,196	171		
NEVADA--Supreme Court	856	NH	NH	856	171	856	171
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	NH	516[1]	N/A	516	103	--	--
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	382	NH	NH	382	76	382	76
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	323	219	N/A	542	108		
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	422[C]	27[1]	N/A	449	90		
VERMONT--Supreme Court	538	31	N/A	569	114		
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals	NH	2,037	785	2,037	407	785	157
WYOMING--Supreme Court	320	NH	NH	320	64	320	64
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL							
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL	3,277	713		3,990	235		
Supreme Court	998	713	N/A	1,711	190		
Court of Civil Appeals	584	NH	NH	584	195	--	--
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,695	NH	NH	1,695	339	--	--

	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	495[1]	40	N/A	535		COLR	1
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court	831	2	2	833	833	COLR	2
MONTANA--Supreme Court	619[C]	(C)	N/A	619		COLR	1
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	964[C]	(C)	(C)	964	964	COLR	1
NEVADA--Supreme Court	1,013	NH	NH	1,013	1,013	COLR	2
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	NH	451[1]	N/A	451		COLR	1
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	357	NH	NH	357	357	COLR	1
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	402	241	N/A	643		COLR	2
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	381[C]	(C)	N/A	381		COLR	1
VERMONT--Supreme Court	527	26	N/A	553		COLR	1
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals ..	NH	1,909	775	1,909	775	COLR	1
WYOMING--Supreme Court	302	NH	NH	302	302	COLR	1
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL							
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL	3,354	654		4,008			
Supreme Court	1,017	654	N/A	1,671		COLR	1
Court of Civil Appeals	518	NH	NH	518	--	IAC	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	1,819	NH	NH	1,819	--	IAC	1

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Total cases filed: Total mandatory cases	Total cases filed: Total discretionary petitions	Total cases filed: Total discretionary petitions granted	Totals: Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions: Number	Totals: Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions: Filed per judge	Totals: Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted: Number	Totals: Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted: Filed per judge
NEW YORK--STATE TOTAL	11,822*						
Court of Appeals	409	N/A	N/A				
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court	9,205^{C}	(C)	N/A	9,205	196		
Appellate Terms of Supreme Court	2,208^{C}	(C)	N/A	2,208	147		
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL	3,016*		117	3,309	276	3,133	131
Supreme Court	1,105	293	56	1,398	155	1,161	129
Court of Criminal Appeals	980^{C}	(C)	61	980	327	1,041	347
Court of Appeals	931	NH	NH	931	78	931	78
PENNSYLVANIA--STATE TOTAL ...	9,247*						
Supreme Court	80	1,936^{P}	237[1]	2,016	288	317	45
Superior Court	6,137^{C}	N/A	(C)			6,137	409
Commonwealth Court	3,030[1]	115	N/A	3,145	349		
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL	1,984*			2,819	108		
Supreme Court	170	758	64	928	186	234	47
Court of Appeals	1,003	77	22	1,080	90	1,025	85
Court of Criminal Appeals	811^{C}	(C)	N/A	811	90		
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL	10,310	2,515	545	12,825	131	10,855	111
Supreme Court	3	1,176	178	1,179	131	181	20
Court of Criminal Appeals	2,450	1,339	367	3,789	421	2,817	313
Courts of Appeals	7,857	NH	NH	7,857	98	7,857	98

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of last resort
IAC = Intermediate appellate court
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court.
-- = Inapplicable

POINTS AT WHICH CASES ARE COUNTED:

1 = At the notice of appeal
2 = At the filing of trial record
3 = At the filing of trial record, and complete briefs
4 = At transfer
5 = Other
6 = Varies

NOTE: N/A indicates that the data are unavailable. Blank spaces indicate that a calculation is inappropriate.

( ) = Mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction cases cannot be separately identified. Data are reported within the jurisdiction where the court has the majority of its caseload.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

An absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that the data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote will have impact on the state's total.

	Total cases disposed						
				Totals			
State/Court name:	Total mandatory cases	Total discretionary petitions	Total discretionary petitions granted	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions	Sum of mandatory cases and discretionary petitions granted	Court type	Point at which cases are counted
NEW YORK--STATE TOTAL	15,894*			19,372			
Court of Appeals ..	369	3,478	227	3,847	596	COLR	1
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court .	13,392[C]	(C)	N/A	13,392		IAC	2
Appellate Terms of Supreme Court.....	2,133[C]	(C)	N/A	2,133		IAC	2
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL	2,167*	520*		2,687			
Supreme Court	813[C]	237[1]	N/A	1,050		COLR	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	626	283	N/A	909		COLR	2
Court of Appeals ..	728	NH	NH	728	--	IAC	4
PENNSYLVANIA--							
Supreme Court	N/A	N/A	N/A			COLR	6
Superior Court	6,253[C]	N/A	(C)		6,253	IAC	1
Commonwealth Court	4,053[C]	(C)	N/A	4,053		IAC	1
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL				2,944			
Supreme Court	(C)	1,087[C]	N/A	1,087		COLR	1
Court of Appeals ..	1,033	77	N/A	1,110		IAC	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	747[C]	(C)	N/A	747		IAC	1
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL ..	10,275	2,933	407	13,208	10,682		
Supreme Court	3	1,261	170	1,264	173	COLR	1
Court of Criminal Appeals	2,448	1,672	237	4,120	2,685	COLR	5
Courts of Appeals .	7,824	NH	NH	7,824	7,824	IAC	1

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory judge disciplinary cases.
Colorado--Supreme Court--Disposed data include mandatory jurisdiction cases.
Delaware--Supreme Court--Data include some discretionary petitions and filed data include discretionary petitions that were granted.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 2: Reported total caseload for all state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

Georgia--Supreme Court--Total mandatory filed data include a few discretionary petitions that were granted and refiled as appeals. --Court of Appeals--Total mandatory data include all discretionary petitions that were granted and refiled as appeals.

Hawaii--Supreme Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions granted.

Idaho--Supreme Court--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted.

Illinois--Appellate Court--Data include all discretionary petitions.

Indiana--Court of Appeals--Data include all discretionary petitions.

Iowa--Supreme Court--Data include some discretionary petitions that were dismissed by the Court.

Kansas--Court of Appeals--Filed data include a few discretionary petitions that were granted. Disposed data include all discretionary petitions.

Maryland--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted, and refiled as appeals.

Massachusetts----Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory appeals. --Appeals Court--Data include all discretionary petitions.

Michigan--Supreme Court--Disposed data include a few mandatory jurisdiction cases. --Court of Appeals--Total mandatory data include discretionary petitions.

Missouri--Supreme Court--Mandatory disposed data include discretionary petitions that were granted, and refiled as appeals.

Montana--Supreme Court--Mandatory cases disposed include all discretionary petitions.

Nebraska--Supreme Court--Data include all discretionary petitions and disposed discretionary petitions granted.

New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court--Data include all discretionary petitions that were granted.

New Mexico--Court of Appeals--Disposed data include all discretionary petitions.

New York--Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court--Data include all discretionary petitions. Appellate terms of Supreme Court--Data include all discretionary petitions.

North Carolina--Court of Appeals--Mandatory filed data include a few discretionary petitions that were granted and refiled as appeals. Data include some cases where relief, not review, was granted.

Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Data include granted discretionary petitions that were disposed. --Court of Criminal Appeals--Mandatory filed data include all discretionary petitions.

Oregon--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all discretionary petitions that were granted.

Pennsylvania--Superior Court--Data include all discretionary petitions that were granted. --Commonwealth Court--Disposed data include all discretionary petitions.

South Carolina--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all discretionary petitions that were disposed.

South Dakota--Filed data include discretionary advisory opinions. Mandatory jurisdiction dispositions include all discretionary petitions.

Tennessee--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.--Court of Criminal Appeals--Data include all discretionary petitions.

Utah--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all discretionary petitions.

Virginia--Court of Appeals--Discretionary petitions disposed include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.

D: Data for the following court are overinclusive and represent some double counting (discretionary petitions that are granted review are counted once as a petition and then are refiled as mandatory cases and cannot be separated from mandatory cases):

Georgia--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions granted.

I: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:

Arizona--Supreme Court--Data do not include mandatory judge disciplinary cases.

California--Supreme Court--Total mandatory filed data do not include mandatory judge disciplinary cases. Total discretionary petitions granted do not include original proceedings that were granted and administrative agency cases.

Connecticut--Supreme Court--Data do not include some unclassified appeals and judge disciplinary cases.

Delaware--Supreme Court--Data do not include some discretionary interlocutory decision cases, which are reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases.

Georgia--Supreme Court--Discretionary petitions granted do not include interlocutory decisions.

Iowa--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary petitions that were dismissed by the court, which are reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases. Discretionary petitions granted and disposed do not include some discretionary original proceedings.

Kentucky--Supreme Court--Data do not include some discretionary unclassified petitions.

Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Disposed data do not include mandatory disciplinary and advisory opinion cases.

Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Total discretionary petitions do not include discretionary petitions of final judgments that were denied. Total discretionary petitions granted do not include "other" discretionary petitions granted.

Missouri--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include a few discretionary original proceedings.

New Hampshire--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary judge disciplinary cases.

New Jersey--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary interlocutory decisions.

Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include disposed discretionary petitions granted.

Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Total discretionary petitions do not include original proceeding petitions that were granted.
--Commonwealth Court--Filed mandatory jurisdiction cases do not include transfers from the Superior Court and the Court of Common Pleas.
South Carolina--Supreme court--Filed data do not include discretionary petitions that were denied or otherwise dismissed/withdrawn, or settled.
Utah--Court of Appeals--Data represent an eleven-month reporting period.

Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Discretionary petitions granted do not include original proceeding petitions that were granted.
South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data do not include advisory opinions reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases.
Virginia--Court of Appeals--Filed data do not include original proceeding petitions granted.

P: The following courts' data are both incomplete and overinclusive:
Arkansas--Supreme Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions, but do not include mandatory attorney disciplinary cases and certified questions from the federal courts.
Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Total mandatory jurisdiction filed data include discretionary petitions but do not include mandatory disciplinary and advisory opinion cases.
Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Total discretionary jurisdiction filed data include non-case motions that could not be separated, but do not include original proceeding petitions.
Washington--Supreme Court--Mandatory jurisdiction data include some discretionary petitions, but do not include mandatory certified questions from the federal courts. Total discretionary petitions include mandatory certified questions from federal courts, but do not include some discretionary petitions reported with mandatory jurisdiction caseload.

V: The following court's data are less than 75% complete:
California--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include disciplinary cases.

TABLE 3: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Mandatory Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1987

		Mandatory cases					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL		837	720	86	8	105	159
Supreme Court	COLR	368	291	79	5	74	70
Court of Appeals	IAC	469	429	91	3	156	89
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL		3,567*	3,458*	97	23	155	105
Supreme Court	COLR	116[1]	86[1]	74	5	23	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,451	3,372	98	18	192	102
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL		1,408*	1,399*	99	13	108	59
Supreme Court	COLR	459[P]	416[P]	91	7	66	19
Court of Appeals	IAC	949	983	104	6	158	40
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL		10,300*	10,742*		84	123	37
Supreme Court	COLR	315[1]	73V		7	45	1
Courts of Appeal	IAC	9,985	10,669	107	77	130	36
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL		2,144			17	126	65
Supreme Court	COLR	214	(C)		7	31	6
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,930	1,602	83	10	193	59
CONNECTICUT--STATE TOTAL ...		1,003			12	84	31
Supreme Court	COLR	58	N/A		7	8	2
Appellate Court	IAC	945	893	94	5	189	29
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL		14,442	14,139	98	53	272	120
Supreme Court	COLR	581	548	94	7	83	5
District Courts of Appeal.	IAC	13,861	13,591	98	46	301	115
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL		2,711*			16	169	44
Supreme Court	COLR	640[C]	(C)		7	91	10
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,071[C]	1,961[C]	95	9	230	33
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL		750*	721*	96	8	94	69
Supreme Court	COLR	616[C]	579[C]	94	5	123	57
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	134	142	106	3	45	12
IDAHO--STATE TOTAL		470*	469*	100	8	59	47
Supreme Court	COLR	289[C]	295[C]	102	5	58	29
Court of Appeals	IAC	181	174	96	3	60	18

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Mandatory cases					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
ILLINOIS--STATE TOTAL		8,522*	8,007*	94	41	208	74
Supreme Court	COLR	568	556	98	7	81	5
Appellate Court	IAC	7,954^C	7,451^C	94	34	234	69
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL		1,558*	1,514*	97	17	92	28
Supreme Court	COLR	409	384	94	5	82	7
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,149^C	1,130^C	98	12	96	21
IOWA--STATE TOTAL		1,495*	1,522*	102	15	100	53
Supreme Court	COLR	877^C	944^C	108	9	97	31
Court of Appeals	IAC	618	578	94	6	103	22
KANSAS--STATE TOTAL		1,341*	1,476*	110	17	79	54
Supreme Court	COLR	214	333	156	7	31	9
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,127^C	1,143^C	101	10	113	46
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL		2,952	2,575	87	21	141	79
Supreme Court	COLR	261	271	104	7	37	7
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,691	2,304	86	14	192	72
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL		3,981	3,503	88	55	72	89
Supreme Court	COLR	135	123	91	7	19	3
Courts of Appeal	IAC	3,846	3,380	92	48	80	86
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL		1,947*	1,999*	103	20	97	43
Court of Appeals	COLR	233^C	222^C	95	7	33	5
Court of Special Appeals .	IAC	1,714	1,777	104	13	132	38
MASSACHUSETTS--STATE TOTAL .		1,506*			17	89	26
Supreme Judicial Court ...	COLR	72	N/A		7	10	1
Appeals Court	IAC	1,434^C	N/A		10	143	24
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL		8,191*			25	328	89
Supreme Court	COLR	5	(C)		7	1	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	8,186^C	7,502^C	92	18	455	89
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL		2,165	2,120	98	20	108	51
Supreme Court	COLR	241	204	85	7	34	6
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,924	1,916	100	13	148	45
MISSOURI--STATE TOTAL		3,148	3,392*		39	81	62
Supreme Court	COLR	93	133^C		7	13	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,055	3,259	107	32	95	60

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Mandatory cases					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL		6,626*	6,781*	102	35	189	86
Supreme Court	COLR	349	381	109	7	50	5
Appellate Division of Superior Court	IAC	6,277[C]	6,400[C]	102	28	224	82
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL		1,682			12	140	112
Supreme Court	COLR	1,078	N/A		5	216	72
Court of Appeals	IAC	604	853[C]		7	86	40
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL.		1,446*	1,502*	104	19	76	23
Supreme Court	COLR	181	192	106	7	26	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,265[C]	1,310[C]	104	12	105	20
OHIO--STATE TOTAL		10,405	9,773	94	65	160	96
Supreme Court	COLR	422	380	90	7	60	4
Court of Appeals	IAC	9,983	9,393	94	58	172	93
OREGON--STATE TOTAL		4,481	4,545*		17	264	165
Supreme Court	COLR	176	313[C]		7	25	6
Court of Appeals	IAC	4,305	4,232	98	10	431	158
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL.		951	964*		11	86	28
Supreme Court	COLR	511	596[C]		5	102	15
Court of Appeals	IAC	440	368	84	6	73	13
UTAH--STATE TOTAL		1,034*			12	86	62
Supreme Court	COLR	474	521[C]		5	95	28
Court of Appeals	IAC	560[1]	N/A		7	80	33
VIRGINIA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals	IAC	422	N/A		10	42	7
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL		3,373*	4,018*	119	25	135	74
Supreme Court	COLR	135[P]	148[P]	110	9	15	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	3,238	3,870	120	16	202	71
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL......		2,185	2,206	101	13	168	45
Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--
Court of Appeals	IAC	2,185	2,206	101	13	168	45
		STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT					
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	COLR	397[C]	419[C]	106	5	79	62
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Court of Appeals	COLR	1,500	1,595	106	9	167	241

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Mandatory cases Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of Filed	Number of Judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	COLR	631[P]	495[1]		7	90	53
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court.	COLR	891	831	93	9	99	34
MONTANA--Supreme Court	COLR	546	(C)		7	78	67
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court ...	COLR	1,196[C]	964[C]	81	7	171	75
NEVADA--Supreme Court	COLR	856	1,013	118	5	171	85
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	382	357	93	5	76	57
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	COLR	323	402	124	5	65	33
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	422[C]	(C)		5	84	60
VERMONT--Supreme Court	COLR	538	527	98	5	108	98
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--
WYOMING--Supreme Court	COLR	320	302	94	5	64	65
		STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL					
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL		3,277	3,354	102	17	193	80
Supreme Court	COLR	998	1,017	102	9	111	24
Court of Civil Appeals ...	IAC	584	518	89	3	195	14
Court of Criminal Appeals.	IAC	1,695	1,819	107	5	339	42
NEW YORK--STATE TOTAL		11,822*	15,894*	134	69	171	66
Court of Appeals	COLR	409	369	90	7	58	2
Appellate Division of Supreme Court	IAC	9,205[C]	13,392[C]	146	47	196	52
Appellate Court of Supreme Supreme Court	IAC	2,208[C]	2,133[C]	97	15	147	12
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL		3,016*	2,167*		24	126	92
Supreme Court	COLR	1,105	813[C]		9	123	34
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	980[C]	626		3	327	30
Court of Appeals	IAC	931	728	78	12	78	28

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Mandatory cases Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed per judge	Filed per 100,000 population
PENNSYLVANIA--STATE TOTAL ..		9,247*			31	298	78
Supreme Court	COLR	80	N/A		7	11	1
Superior Court	IAC	6,137[C]	6,253[C]	102	15	409	51
Commonwealth Court	IAC	3,030[1]	4,053[C]		9	337	25
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL		1,984*			26	76	41
Supreme Court	COLR	170	(C)		5	34	4
Court of Criminal Appeals.	IAC	811[C]	747[C]	92	9	90	17
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,003	1,033	103	12	84	21
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL		10,310	10,275	100	98	105	61
Supreme Court	COLR	3	3	100	9	0	0
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	2,450	2,448	100	9	272	15
Courts of Appeals	IAC	7,857	7,824	100	80	98	47

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court
-- = Inapplicable

NOTE: N/A indicates that the data are unavailable. Blank spaces indicate that a calculation is inappropriate.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote written for each court in the state. Each footnote has an impact on the state total.

(C): Disposed mandatory jurisdiction cases cannot be separately identified and are reported with discretionary cases disposed.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Delaware--Supreme Court--Data include some discretionary petitions and discretionary petitions that were granted.

Georgia--Supreme Court--Mandatory jurisdiction filed data include discretionary cases that were granted and refiled as appeals.

--Court of Appeals--Mandatory jurisdiction data include discretionary petitions that were granted and refiled as appeals.

Hawaii--Supreme Court--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted, and refiled as appeals.

Idaho--Supreme Court--Data include discretionary petitions reviewed on the merits.

Illinois--Appellate Court--Data include discretionary petitions.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 3: Selected caseload and processing measures for mandatory cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

Indiana--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary interlocutory decision cases.
Iowa--Supreme Court--Filed data include discretionary original proceedings. Disposed data include some discretionary cases that were dismissed.
Kansas--Court of Appeals--Data include a few discretionary cases that were granted.
Maryland--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted, and refiled as appeals.
Massachusetts--Appeals Court--Data include a small number of discretionary interlocutory decision petitions.
Michigan--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions.
Missouri--Supreme Court--Disposed data include discretionary petitions that were granted, and refiled as appeals.
Nebraska--Supreme Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions, and disposed discretionary petitions granted.
New Jersey--Appellate Division of Superior Court--Data include discretionary interlocutory petitions that were granted.
New Mexico--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions.
New York--Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court--Data include discretionary petitions--Appellate terms of Supreme Court--Data include discretionary petitions.
North Carolina--Court of Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions that were granted, and refiled as appeals.
Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Disposed data include granted discretionary petitions that were disposed
  --Court of Criminal Appeals--Filed data include all discretionary jurisdiction cases.
Oregon--Supreme Court--Disposed data include discretionary petitions that were granted.
Pennsylvania--Superior Court--Data include all discretionary petitions that were granted.
  --Commonwealth Court--Disposed data include discretionary petitions.
South Carolina--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all discretionary petitions that were disposed.
South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data include all discretionary jurisdiction cases.
Tennessee--Court of Criminal Appeals--Data include discretionary petitions.
Utah--Supreme Court--Disposed data include discretionary petitions.

i: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
  Arizona--Supreme Court--Data do not include judge disciplinary cases.
  California--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include judge disciplinary cases.
  Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Disposed data do not include disciplinary or advisory opinion cases.
  Pennsylvania--Commonwealth Court--Filed mandatory jurisdiction cases do not include transfers from the Superior Court and the Court of Common Pleas.
  Utah--Court of Appeals--Filed data represent an eleven-month reporting period.

P: The following courts' data are both incomplete and overinclusive:
  Arkansas--Supreme Court--Data include a few discretionary petitions, but do not include mandatory attorney disciplinary cases and certified questions from the federal courts.
  Maine--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court--Filed data include discretionary petition cases, but do not include mandatory disciplinary and advisory opinion cases.
  Washington--Supreme Court--Data include some discretionary petitions, but do not include certified questions from the federal courts.

V: Data are less than 75% complete:
  California--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include disciplinary cases.

TABLE 4: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions in State Appellate Courts, 1987

		Discretionary petitions					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (dis-posed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL		273	285	104	8	34	52
Supreme Court	COLR	219	231	105	5	44	42
Court of Appeals	IAC	54	54	100	3	18	10
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL		1,046*	1,099*	105	23	45	31
Supreme Court	COLR	995^{C}	1,054^{C}	106	5	199	29
Court of Appeals	IAC	51	45	88	18	3	2
ARKANSAS--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH				
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL		11,290	10,780	95	84	134	41
Supreme Court	COLR	4,558	4,004	89	7	651	16
Courts of Appeal	IAC	6,732	6,776	101	77	87	24
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL		756	1,036*		7	108	23
Supreme Court	COLR	756	1,036^{C}		7	108	23
Court of Appeal	IAC	NH	NH				
CONNECTICUT--STATE TOTAL ...		195*			12	16	6
Supreme Court	COLR	152^{1}	293^{P}		7	22	5
Appellate Court	IAC	43	N/A		5	9	1
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL		3,552	3,110	88	53	67	30
Supreme Court	COLR	1,270	1,223	96	7	181	11
District Courts of Appeal.	IAC	2,282	1,887	83	46	50	19
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL		1,739	2,225*		16	109	28
Supreme Court	COLR	1,006	1,524^{D}		7	144	16
Court of Appeals	IAC	733	701	96	9	81	12
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL		57	58	102	5	11	5
Supreme Court	COLR	57	58	102	5	11	5
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
IDAHO--STATE TOTAL		82	76	93	5	16	8
Supreme Court	COLR	82	76	93	5	16	8
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
ILLINOIS--							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,673	1,633	98	7	239	14
Appellate Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
INDIANA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	404	437	108	5	81	7
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
IOWA--STATE TOTAL		327*	317*	97	9	36	12
Supreme Court	COLR	327^{1}	317^{1}	97	9	36	12
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--

(continued on next page)

TABLE 4: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
KANSAS--							
Supreme Court		N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals		N/A	N/A				
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL		783*	777*	99	21	37	21
Supreme Court	COLR	693[1]	706[1]	102	7	99	19
Court of Appeals	IAC	90	71	79	14	6	2
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL		6,214	6,220	98	55	113	139
Supreme Court	COLR	2,673	2,660	99	7	382	60
Courts of Appeal	IAC	3,541	3,460	98	48	74	79
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL		949	856	90	20	47	21
Court of Appeals	COLR	655	562	86	7	94	14
Court of Special Appeals .	IAC	294	294	100	13	23	6
MASSACHUSETTS--							
Supreme Judicial Court ...	COLR	336	N/A		7	48	6
Appeals Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
MICHIGAN--							
Supreme Court	COLR	2,082	2,168[C]		7	297	23
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL		974*	895*	92	20	49	23
Supreme Court	COLR	626	555	89	7	89	15
Court of Appeals	IAC	348[1]	340[1]	98	13	27	8
MISSOURI--STATE TOTAL		1,033	997*		7	148	20
Supreme Court	COLR	1,033	997[1]		7	148	20
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
NEW JERSEY--							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,382[1]	1,411[1]	102	7	197	18
Appellate Division of Supreme Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL		358			12	30	24
Supreme Court	COLR	301	N/A		5	60	20
Court of Appeals	IAC	57	N/A		7	8	4
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL.		1,159	1,120	97	19	61	18
Supreme Court	COLR	676	637	94	7	97	11
Court of Appeals	IAC	483	483	100	12	40	8
OHIO--STATE TOTAL		1,846	1,598	87	7	264	17
Supreme Court	COLR	1,846	1,598	87	7	264	17
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
OREGON--STATE TOTAL		1,086	1,042	96	7	155	40
Supreme Court	COLR	1,086	1,042	96	7	155	40
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--

(continued on next page)

TABLE 4: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Court type	Discretionary petitions					
		Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (dis-posed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL		32*			5	6	1
Supreme Court	COLR	32[1]	N/A		5	6	1
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
UTAH--STATE TOTAL		40*			12	3	2
Supreme Court	COLR	30	N/A		5	6	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	10[1]	N/A		7	1	1
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL		2,642	2,912*		17	155	45
Supreme Court	COLR	1,441	1,169	81	7	206	24
Court of Appeals	IAC	1,201	1,743[C]		10	120	20
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL		1,497*	1,481*	99	25	60	33
Supreme Court	COLR	1,151[P]	1,093[P]	95	9	128	25
Court of Appeals	IAC	346	388	112	16	22	8
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL		1,090	913	84	20	55	23
Supreme Court	COLR	869	725	83	7	124	18
Court of Appeals	IAC	221	188	85	13	17	5
STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	COLR	4[1]	4[1]	100	5	1	1
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Court of Appeals	COLR	96	87	91	9	11	15
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	N/A	40		7	(6)	(3)
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court .	COLR	2	2	100	9	.2	.1
MONTANA--Supreme Court	COLR	25	N/A		7	4	3
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
NEVADA--Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	COLR	516[1]	451[1]	87	5	103	49
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	COLR	219	241	110	5	44	22
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	27[1]	N/A		5	5	4
VERMONT--Supreme Court	COLR	31	26	84	5	6	6
WEST VIRGINIA-- Supreme Court of Appeals .	COLR	2,037	1,909	94	5	407	107
WYOMING--Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--

(continued on next page)

TABLE 4: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
		STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL					
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL		713	654	92	9	79	17
Supreme Court	COLR	713	654	92	9	79	17
Court of Civil Appeals ...	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
NEW YORK--							
Court of Appeals	COLR	N/A	3,478		7	(497)	(20)
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
Appelate Terms of Supreme Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL			520[*]		12	(43)	(16)
Supreme Court	COLR	293	237[1]		9	33	9
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	N/A	283		3	(94)	(9)
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
PENNSYLVANIA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	1,936[P]	N/A		7	277	16
Commonwealth Court	IAC	115	N/A		9	13	1
Superior Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
TENNESSEE--							
Supreme Court.............	COLR	758	1,087[C]		5	152	16
Court of Appeals	IAC	77	77	100	12	6	2
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL		2,515	2,933	117	18	140	15
Supreme Court	COLR	1,176	1,261	107	9	131	7
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	1,339	1,672	125	9	149	8
Court of Appeal	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--

TABLE 4: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court
-- = Inapplicable

NOTE: N/A indicates that the data are unavailable. Blank spaces indicate that a calculation is inappropriate.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote written for each court in the state. Each footnote has an impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
  Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory judge disciplinary cases.
  Colorado--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.
  Michigan--Supreme Court--Disposed data include a few mandatory jurisdiction cases.
  Tennessee--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.
  Virginia--Court of Appeals--Disposed data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.

D: The following court's data are overinclusive and represent some double counting:
  Georgia--Supreme Court--Disposed data include all mandatory appeals and discretionary petitions granted, that are refiled as a mandatory case.

I: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
  Connecticut--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include disciplinary cases.
  Delaware--Supreme Court--Data do not include some discretionary interlocutory petitions and some discretionary advisory opinions.
  Iowa--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary cases that were dismissed by the court.
  Kentucky--Supreme Court--Data do not include some discretionary unclassified petitions.
  Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Data do not include petitions of final judgments that were denied.
  Missouri--Supreme Court--Disposition data do not include a few original proceedings.
  New Hampshire--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary judge disciplinary cases.
  New Jersey--Supreme Court--Data do not include discretionary interlocutory petitions which could not be separated from a "motions" category.
  Oklahoma--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include discretionary petitions granted and disposed.
  South Carolina--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include discretionary petitions that were denied or otherwise dismissed/withdrawn, or settled.
  South Dakota--Supreme Court--Data do not include advisory opinions which are reported with mandatory jurisdiction cases.
  Utah--Court of Appeals--Filed data represent an eleven-month reporting period.

P: The following courts' data are both incomplete and overinclusive:
  Connecticut--Supreme Court--Disposed data include mandatory cases, but do not include some unclassified appeals and judge disciplinary cases.
  Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Total discretionary jurisdiction filed data include non-case motions that could not be separated, but do not include original proceeding petitions.
  Washington--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory certified questions from the federal courts, but do not include some discretionary petitions.

TABLE 5: Selected Caseload and Processing Measures for Discretionary Petitions Granted in State Appellate Courts, 1987

		Discretionary petitions granted					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT							
ALASKA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	36	N/A		5	7	7
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	14		3	(5)	(3)
ARIZONA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	101^{C}		5	(20)	(3)
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
ARKANSAS--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL		778*			84	9	3
Supreme Court	COLR	224^{1}	N/A		7	32	1
Courts of Appeal	IAC	554	N/A		77	7	2
COLORADO--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
CONNECTICUT--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Appellate Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
FLORIDA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
District Courts of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
GEORGIA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	119^{1}	N/A		7	17	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL		10			5	2	1
Supreme Court	COLR	10	N/A		5	2	1
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
IDAHO--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
ILLINOIS--							
Supreme Court	COLR	152	138	91	7	22	1
Appellate Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
INDIANA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	56		5	(11)	(1)
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				

(continued on next page)

TABLE 5: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions granted in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions granted					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
IOWA--STATE TOTAL			58[*]		9	(6)	(2)
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	58[1]		9	(6)	(2)
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
KANSAS--							
Supreme Court	COLR	141	N/A		7	20	6
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
KENTUCKY--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL		1,655	1,628	98	55	30	37
Supreme Court	COLR	553	553	100	7	79	12
Courts of Appeal	IAC	1,102	1,075	98	48	23	25
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL		124			20	6	3
Court of Appeals	COLR	104	N/A		7	15	2
Court of Special Appeals .	IAC	20	N/A		13	2	0
MASSACHUSETTS--							
Supreme Judicial Court ...	COLR	208	283[C]		7	30	4
Appeals Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
MICHIGAN--							
Supreme Court	COLR	60	N/A		7	9	1
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
MINNESOTA--STATE TOTAL		213[*]	220[*]	103	20	11	5
Supreme Court	COLR	104	115	111	7	15	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	109[1]	105[1]	96	13	8	3
MISSOURI--STATE TOTAL		79			7	11	2
Supreme Court	COLR	79	N/A		7	11	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
NEW JERSEY--							
Supreme Court	COLR	119[1]	N/A		7	17	2
Appellate Division of Superior Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL		61			12	5	4
Supreme Court	COLR	45	N/A		5	9	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	16	N/A		7	2	1
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL.		131			19	7	2
Supreme Court	COLR	60	61	102	7	9	1
Court of Appeals	IAC	71	N/A		12	6	1
OHIO--STATE TOTAL		194	181	93	7	28	2
Supreme Court	COLR	194	181	93	7	28	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--

(continued on next page)

TABLE 5: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions granted in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions granted					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (disposed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
OREGON--STATE TOTAL		137			7	20	5
Supreme Court	COLR	137	N/A		7	20	5
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL		32			5	6	1
Supreme Court	COLR	32	N/A		5	6	1
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
UTAH--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL		416*			17	24	7
Supreme Court	COLR	156	N/A		7	22	3
Court of Appeals	IAC	260[1]	N/A		10	26	4
WASHINGTON--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	68		9	(8)	(2)
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
WISCONSIN--							
Supreme Court	COLR	206	219	106	7	29	4
Court of Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
		STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT					
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Court of Appeals	COLR	4	1	25	9	.4	.6
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
MONTANA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court .	COLR	N/A	2		9	(.2)	(.1)
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
NEVADA--Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				

(continued on next page)

TABLE 5: Selected caseload and processing measures for discretionary petitions granted in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Discretionary petitions granted					
State/Court name:	Court type	Filed	Disposed	Disposed as a percent of filed	Number of judges	Filed (dis-posed) per judge	Filed (disposed) per 100,000 population
VERMONT--Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals	COLR	785	775	99	5	157	41
WYOMING--Supreme Court	COLR	NH	NH		--	--	--
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL							
ALABAMA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Court of Civil Appeals ...	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
NEW YORK--							
Court of Appeals	COLR	N/A	227		7	(32)	(1)
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
Appellate Terms of Supreme Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL		117			12	10	4
Supreme Court	COLR	56	N/A		9	6	2
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	61	N/A		3	20	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--
PENNSYLVANIA--							
Supreme Court	COLR	237[1]	N/A		7	34	2
Superior Court	COLR	N/A	N/A				
Commonwealth Court	IAC	N/A	N/A				
TENNESSEE--							
Supreme Court	COLR	64	N/A		5	13	1
Court of Appeals	IAC	22	N/A		12	2	0
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	N/A	N/A				
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL		545	407	75	18	30	3
Supreme Court	COLR	178	170	96	9	20	1
Court of Criminal Appeals.	COLR	367	237	65	9	41	2
Court of Appeals	IAC	NH	NH		--	--	--

JURISDICTION CODES:

COLR = Court of Last Resort
IAC = Intermediate Appellate Court
NH = This casetype is not handled in this court
-- = Inapplicable

NOTE: N/A indicates that the data are unavailable. Blank spaces indicate that a calculation is inappropriate.

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court in the state. Each footnote has an impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
Arizona--Supreme Court--Data include mandatory judge disciplinary cases.
Massachusetts--Supreme Judicial Court--Disposed data include all mandatory jurisdiction cases.

1: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
California--Supreme Court--Data do not include original proceedings initially heard in the Supreme Court that were granted.
Georgia--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include discretionary interlocutory petitions granted.
Iowa--Supreme Court--Disposed data do not include some original proceedings.
Minnesota--Court of Appeals--Data do not include some petitions.
New Jersey--Supreme Court--Filed data do not include discretionary interlocutory petitions granted.
Pennsylvania--Supreme Court--Data do not include original proceedings petitions that were granted.
Virginia--Court of Appeals--Data do not include original proceedings petitions granted.

TABLE 6: Opinions Reported by State Appellate Courts, 1987

State/Court name:	Opinion count is by:		Does the opinion count include?			Total dispositions by opinion	Number of authorized justices/ judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
	case	written document	Majority opinion	Per curiam opinion	Memos/ orders			
STATES WITH ONE COURT OF LAST RESORT AND ONE INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT								
ALASKA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	0	135	5	11
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	82	3	8
ARIZONA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	121	5	16
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	356	18	48
ARKANSAS--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	X	358	7	15
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	0	649	6	16
CALIFORNIA--Supreme Court ..	X	0	X	X	some	85	7	50
Courts of Appeal	X	0	X	X	some	8,977	77	206
COLORADO--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	238	7	14
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	some	N/A	10	26
CONNECTICUT--Supreme Court .	X	0	X	X	some	233	6	14
Appellate Court	X	0	X	X	some	404	6	14
FLORIDA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	512	7	15
District Courts of Appeal	X	0	X	X	0	4,534	46	102
GEORGIA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	374	7	17
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	1,667	9	28
HAWAII--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	314	5	14
Intermediate Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	X	135	3	6
IDAHO--Supreme Court	0	X	X	X	X	108	5	11
Court of Appeals	0	X	X	X	0	154	3	6
ILLINOIS--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	N/A	7	24
Appellate Court	X	0	X	X	some	2,024	34	88
INDIANA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	363	5	13
Court of Appeals	X	X	X	X	X	1,114	12	10
IOWA--Supreme Court	0	X	X	0	0	244	9	16
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	418	6	6
KANSAS--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	244	7	7
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	781	10	18

(continued on next page)

TABLE 6: Opinions reported by state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

	Opinion count is by:		Does the opinion count include?					
State/Court name:	case	written document	Majority opinion	Per curiam opinion	Memos/ orders	Total dispositions by opinion	Number of authorized justices/ judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
KENTUCKY--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	279	7	11
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	1,432	14	22
LOUISIANA--Supreme Court ...	0	X	X	X	some	145	7	26
Courts of Appeal	0	X	X	X	X	3,040	48	103
MARYLAND--Court of Appeals .	X	0	X	0	0	126	7	14
Court of Special Appeals .	X	0	X	0	0	233	13	29
MASSACHUSETTS--Supreme Judicial Court	0	X	X	0	0	247	7	20
Appeals Court	0	X	X	X	X	760	10	27
MICHIGAN--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	108	7	15
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	4,179	18	84
MINNESOTA--Supreme Court ...	X	0	X	0	0	156	7	10
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	1,279	13	36
MISSOURI--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	74	7	15
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	1,720	32	135
NEW JERSEY--Supreme Court ..	0	X	X	0	0	87	7	26
Appellate Division of Superior Court	X	0	X	X	X	3,640	28	60
NEW MEXICO--Supreme Court ..	X	0	X	0	some	192	5	10
Court of Appeals	0	X	X	0	0	175	7	20
NORTH CAROLINA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	some	160	7	14
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	X	1,209	12	28
OHIO--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	X	N/A	7	20
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	X	4,731	58	varies
OREGON--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	114	7	10
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	597	10	18
SOUTH CAROLINA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	169	5	19
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	0	336	6	11

(continued on next page)

TABLE 6: Opinions reported by state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Opinion count is by:		Does the opinion count include?			Total dispositions by opinion	Number of authorized justices/judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
	case	written document	Majority opinion	Per curiam opinion	Memos/orders			
UTAH--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	182	5	12
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	0	151	7	9
VIRGINIA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	149	7	23
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	0	187	10	22
WASHINGTON--Supreme Court ..	X	0	X	X	some	134	9	23
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	1,645	16	32
WISCONSIN--Supreme Court ...	X	0	X	X	0	116	7	10
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	1,165	13	25
STATES WITH NO INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT								
DELAWARE--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	0	61	5	5
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	0	296	9	25
MAINE--Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	0	X	X	0	0	220	7	8.5
MISSISSIPPI--Supreme Court .	X	0	X	0	X	507	9	38
MONTANA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	0	359	7	14
NEBRASKA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	X	365	7	14
NEVADA--Supreme Court	0	X	X	X	0	142	5	20
NEW HAMPSHIRE--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	155	5	20
NORTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court.	X	0	X	X	0	249	5	10
RHODE ISLAND--Supreme Court.	X	0	X	0	0	181	5	17
SOUTH DAKOTA--Supreme Court.	X	0	X	X	0	186	5	8
VERMONT--Supreme Court	X	0	X	0	0	117	5	8

(continued on next page)

TABLE 6: Opinions reported by state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

	Opinion count is by:		Does the opinion count include?					
State/Court name:	case	written document	Majority opinion	Per curiam opinion	Memos/ orders	Total dispositions by opinion	Number of authorized justices/ judges	Number of lawyer support personnel
WEST VIRGINIA--Supreme Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	244	5	20
WYOMING--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	196	5	12
STATES WITH MULTIPLE APPELLATE COURTS AT ANY LEVEL								
ALABAMA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	some	688	9	18
Court of Civil Appeals ...	X	0	X	X	X	339	3	6
Court of Criminal Appeals.	X	0	X	0	some	448	5	10
NEW YORK--Court of Appeals .	0	X	X	0	0	109	7	28
Appellate Terms of the Supreme Court	0	X	X	X	some	N/A	15	25
Appellate Divisions of the Supreme Court	0	X	X	X	some	N/A	47	171
OKLAHOMA--Supreme Court	X	0	X	X	0	143	9	16
Court of Criminal Appeals.	X	0	X	X	0	N/A	3	6
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	X	721	12	12
PENNSYLVANIA--Supreme Court.	X	0	X	0	0	N/A	7	N/A
Superior Court	X	0	X	X	X	N/A	15	N/A
Commonwealth Court	0	X	X	X	X	N/A	9	39
TENNESSEE--Supreme Court ...	X	0	X	X	some	184	5	9
Court of Appeals	X	0	X	X	some	887	12	12
Court of Criminal Appeals.	X	0	X	X	some	690	9	9
TEXAS--Supreme Court	0	X	X	0	0	93	9	44
Court of Criminal Appeals.	X	0	X	0	0	214	9	42
Courts of Appeals	X	0	X	0	0	4,831	80	217

CODES:

X	= Court follows this method when counting opinions
0	= Court does not follow this method when counting opinions

TABLE 7: Reported National Civil and Criminal Caseload for State Trial Courts, 1987

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
Civil cases:		
I. General jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete cases	3,623,539	2,822,876
Number of courts reporting complete civil data	29	27
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete data	24	22
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data	43%	40%
B. Number of reported complete civil cases that include other casetypes	2,515,495	1,790,930
Number of courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	16	12
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	16	12
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	32%	26%
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	1,907,007	2,746,720
Number of courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	10	15
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	10	15
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	24%	31%
II. Limited jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete cases	6,727,220	5,275,290
Number of courts reporting complete civil data	55	47
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete data	29	26
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data	58%	43%
B. Number of reported complete civil cases that include other casetypes	356,260	367,199
Number of courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	3	3
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	3	3
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete civil data that include other casetypes	6%	6%

(continued on next page)

TABLE 7: Reported national civil and criminal caseload for state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	897,618	845,448
Number of courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	14	15
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	9	11
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting cases that are incomplete or incomplete and include noncivil casetypes	17%	28%
Criminal cases:		
I. General jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete cases	1,237,605	830,696
Number of courts reporting complete data	17	16
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete data	17	16
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data	48%	45%
B. Number of reported complete criminal cases that include other casetypes	632,304	598,890
Number of courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	16	16
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	16	16
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	18%	18%
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncriminal casetypes	1,272,729	1,196,835
Number of courts reporting either incomplete data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	18	20
Number of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting either incomplete criminal data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	18	20
Percent of the total population of states with general jurisdiction courts reporting either incomplete criminal data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	33%	34%
II. Limited jurisdiction courts:		
A. Number of reported complete cases	1,867,487	1,112,295
Number of courts reporting complete data	10	8
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete data	8	6
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data	10%	8%
B. Number of reported complete criminal cases that include other casetypes	1,341,788	1,248,745
Number of courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	10	10
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	9	9
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting complete criminal data that include other casetypes	16%	16%

(continued on next page)

TABLE 7: Reported national civil and criminal caseload for state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

Reported Caseload	Filed	Disposed
C. Number of reported cases that are either incomplete or incomplete and include noncriminal casetypes	4,919,855	4,622,203
Number of courts reporting either incomplete data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	38	34
Number of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting either incomplete criminal data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	27	26
Percent of the total population of states with limited jurisdiction courts reporting either incomplete criminal data or incomplete data that include noncriminal casetypes	52%	53%

Summary section for all trial courts:

	Reported filings					
	General Jurisdiction		Limited Jurisdiction		Total (incomplete)	
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
1. Total number of reported complete cases	3,623,539	1,237,605	6,727,220	1,867,487	10,350,759	3,105,092
2. Total number of reported complete cases that include other casetypes	2,515,495	632,304	356,260	1,341,788	2,871,755	1,974,092
3. Total number of reported cases that are either incomplete, or incomplete and include other casetypes	1,907,007	1,272,729	897,618	4,919,855	2,804,625	6,192,584
Total (incomplete)	8,046,041	3,142,638	7,981,098	8,129,130	16,027,139	11,271,768

TABLE 8: Reported Grand Total State Trial Court Caseload, 1987

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL .								
Circuit Court	G	2	G	6	143,213 C	132,894 C	93	3,508
District Court	L	1	B	1	572,100 C	537,518 C	94	14,012
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	M	1	N/A	N/A		
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL ..					155,629 *	146,494 *	94	29,644
Superior Court	G	1	B	6	19,605 O	18,505 O	94	3,734
District Court	L	3	B	5	136,024	127,989	94	25,909
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL .					1,800,047 *	1,658,042 *	92	53,161
Superior Court	G	2	D	6	135,963	128,645	95	4,015
Justice of the Peace Court	L	1	Z	1	641,559 K	605,948 K	94	18,947
Municipal Court	L	1	Z	1	1,022,525 1	923,449 1	90	30,199
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL								
Chancery and Probate Court	G	2	I	3	53,426	51,575	97	2,237
Circuit Court	G	2	A	1	68,648	66,726	97	2,875
City Court	L	1	A	1	23,602 1	13,817 1	59	988
County Court	L	2	I	1	12,780 1	10,717 1	84	535
Court of Common Pleas	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	A	1	458,030 1	325,905 1	71	19,180
Police Court	L	1	A	1	N/A	N/A		
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL					18,782,143 *	15,156,647 *	81	67,896
Superior Court	G	2	B	6	873,158	699,932	80	3,156
Justice Court	L	3	B	1	612,993 C	504,554 C	82	2,216
Municipal Court	L	3	B	1	17,295,992 C	13,952,162 C	81	62,524
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL								
District, Denver Juvenile & Probate Court	G	2	D	3	136,550 C	132,292 C	97	4,143
Water Court	G	2	I	1	1,381	1,786	129	42
County Court	L	2	D	1	366,749 1	351,081 1	96	11,127
Municipal Court	L	1	I	1	N/A	N/A		
CONNECTICUT--STATE TOTAL					679,858 *			21,173
Superior Court	G	1	E	3	626,203 O	576,910 O		19,502
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	53,655	N/A		1,671

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
DELAWARE--STATE TOTAL					329,568 *	321,863 *	98	51,175
Court of Chancery ..	G	2	I	1	3,352	2,734	82	521
Superior Court	G	2	B	1	9,029 E	8,315 E	92	1,402
Alderman's Court ...	L	4	A	1	22,452	22,009	98	3,486
Court of Common Pleas	L	2	A	1	26,331 1	25,652 1	97	4,089
Family Court	L	2	B	3	34,925 1	32,892 1	94	5,423
Justice of the Peace Court	L	2	A	1	201,251	198,275	99	31,250
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	4	A	1	32,228 K	31,986 K	99	5,004
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Superior Court	G	3	B	6**	219,138	221,395	101	35,231
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL .					4,751,310	4,169,006	88	39,519
Circuit Court	G	2	E	4	699,915	603,356	86	5,821
County Court	L	1	A	1	4,051,395	3,565,650	88	33,697
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL .								
Juvenile Court	G	2	I	1	28,072 V	18,153 V	65	
Superior Court	G	2	G	3	214,658 C	212,084 C	99	3,450
Civil Court	L	2	M	1	N/A	N/A		
County Recorder's Court	L	1	M	1	N/A	N/A		
Magistrate Court ...	L	2	B	1	288,785 1	240,360 1	83	4,641
Municipal Court	L	2	M	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court and City of Atlanta ...	L	1	M	1	N/A	N/A		
Probate Court	L	2	B	1	103,318 V	74,476 V		
State Court	L	2	G	1	N/A	N/A		
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL ..					928,130 *	850,856 *	92	85,700
Circuit Court	G	2	G	6	47,185 C	44,733 C	95	4,357
District Court	L	4	A	1	880,945	806,123	92	81,343
IDAHO--District Court	G	3	D	6	344,973 O	344,083 O	100	34,566
ILLINOIS--Circuit Court	G	4	G	6	7,069,209 C	5,219,129 C	74	61,036

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL .					1,248,539 *	1,221,189 *	98	22,573
Superior & Circuit Court	G	3	B	4	522,944 M	494,567 M	95	9,455
County Court	L	4	B	1	251,856	247,767	98	4,554
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	3	B	1	213,693	214,494	100	3,864
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	3,360	2,844	85	61
City and Town Court	L	3	B	1	194,066	199,677	103	3,509
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	2	I	1	62,620	61,840	99	1,132
IOWA--District Court .	G	3	B	6	922,729 E	899,097 0		32,559
KANSAS--STATE TOTAL ..								
District Court	G	2	B	6	421,021	420,004	100	17,004
Municipal Court	L	1	I		N/A	N/A		
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL					672,503 *	641,297 *	95	18,044
Circuit Court	G	2	B	6	64,527 0	63,324 0	98	1,731
District Court	L	3	B	1	607,976 0	577,973 0	95	16,313
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL								
District Court	G	2	Z	6	484,554 E	N/A		10,862
Family & Juvenile Court	G	2	I	4***	26,841	N/A		602
City and Parish Court	L	1	B	1	639,436	522,820	82	14,334
Justice of the Peace Court	L	1	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Mayor's Court	L	1	I	1	N/A	N/A		
MAINE--STATE TOTAL ...								
Superior Court	G	2	B	6	17,884 C	17,522 C	98	1,507
Administrative Court	L	2	I	1	341	309	91	29
District Court	L	4	B	5	293,896 C	277,520 C	94	24,760
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL								
Circuit Court	G	2	B	4	193,555 C	161,086 C	83	4,268
District Court	L	2	B	1	1,686,155 N	984,065 V		37,181
Orphan's Court	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MASSACHUSETTS--STATE TOTAL					2,147,351 *	1,611,177 *		36,676
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:								
Superior Court Department	G	1	D	4	28,303	33,719	119	483
Housing, District, Probate/Family Court, Boston Municipal Court Departments	G	1	D	4	2,119,048 1	1,577,458 V		36,192
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL					3,481,399 *	3,423,930 *		37,841
Circuit Court	G	2	B	4	220,106	230,030	105	2,392
Court of Claims	G	2	I	1	818	1,012	124	9
District Court	L	4	B	1	3,102,052	3,084,343	99	33,718
Municipal Court	L	4	B	1	42,376	43,607	103	461
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	116,047 1	64,938 V		1,261
MINNESOTA--District Court	G	4	B	6	1,955,547	1,918,533	98	46,056
MISSOURI--Circuit Court	G	3	Z	6	835,039 0	794,848 0	95	16,364
MONTANA--STATE TOTAL .								
District Court	G	2	G	3	31,517	27,790	88	3,896
City Court	L	1	B	1	N/A	N/A		
Justice of the Peace Court	L	1	B	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	B	1	N/A	N/A		
NEBRASKA--STATE TOTAL					431,788 *			27,088
District Court	G	2	B	5	41,434 E	42,711 E	103	2,599
County Court	L	1	B	1	387,699 K	388,425 K	100	24,322
Separate Juvenile Court	L	2	I	1	2,269	N/A		142
Workers' Compensation Court	L	2	I	1	386	329	85	24
NEVADA--STATE TOTAL ..								
District Court	G	2	Z	2	N/A	N/A		
Justice Court	L	1	Z	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	Z	1	N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
NEW HAMPSHIRE--STATE TOTAL					416,641 *			39,417
Superior Court	G	2	A	5	27,152 i	26,076		2,569
District Court	L	4	A	1	365,419 K	N/A		34,571
Municipal Court	L	4	A	1	7,671 K	N/A		726
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	16,399	N/A		1,551
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL								
Superior Court	G	2	B	6**	798,492	791,412	99	10,408
Municipal Court	L	4	B	1	5,785,076	5,128,305	89	75,405
Surrogates' Court ..	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Tax Court	L	2	I	1	4,619	4,687	101	60
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL								
District Court	G	2	E	3	68,656	65,518	95	4,577
Magistrate Court ...	L	3	E	1	117,279 C	100,998		7,819
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County .	L	4	E	1	437,133 K	285,374 i		29,142
NEW YORK--STATE TOTAL								
Supreme and County Court	G	2	E	1	305,443 O	246,867 O	81	1,714
Court of Claims	L	2	I	1	2,072	2,090	101	12
District and City Court	L	4	E	1	1,645,233	1,614,405	98	9,230
Family Court	L	2	I	4	439,130	430,797	98	2,464
Surrogates' Court ..	L	2	I	1	108,637	59,359 V		610
Town and Village Court	L	1	E	1	N/A	N/A		
Civil Court of the City of New York ..	L	2	I	1	251,981	248,588	99	1,414
Criminal Court of the City of New York ..	L	4	E	1	380,853 i	360,172 i	95	2,137
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL					2,030,961 *	1,948,102 *	96	31,669
Superior Court	G	2	B	1	181,457	170,687	94	2,830
District Court	L	3	C	3	1,849,504 K	1,777,415 K	96	28,840
NORTH DAKOTA--STATE TOTAL						163,502 *		
District Court	G	4	B	3	25,831 C	25,167 C	97	3,844
County Court	L	1	E	1	91,282 K	90,939 K	100	13,584
Municipal Court	L	1	B	1	N/A	47,396 V		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualify-ing footnotes	Disposi-tions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
OHIO--STATE TOTAL								
Court of Common Pleas	G	2	B	4	617,380 E	609,011 E	99	5,725
County Court	L	2	B	1	293,724	292,082	99	2,724
Court of Claims	L	2	I	1	4,513	4,355	96	42
Mayors' Court	L	1	M	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	2	B	1	2,271,242	2,269,705	100	21,061
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL								
District Court	G	2	J	6	506,265 1	458,069 1	90	15,473
Court of Tax Review	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Criminal Court of Record ...	L	1	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court Not of Record	L	1	I	1	N/A	N/A		
OREGON--STATE TOTAL ..								
Circuit Court	G	2	E	6	120,537 E	93,524 O		4,425
Tax Court	G	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		
County Court	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		
District Court	L	1	E	1	465,170 K	481,405 K	103	17,077
Justice Court	L	3	E	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	3	A	1	N/A	N/A		
PENNSYLVANIA--STATE TOTAL					4,128,203 *			34,586
Court of Common Pleas	G	2	B	4	418,507 1	404,520 1	97	3,506
District Justice Court	L	4	B	1	2,015,663	1,811,218	90	16,887
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	2	B	1	171,783 C	171,886 C	100	1,439
Philadelphia Traffic Court	L	1	I	1	1,117,420	342,134	31	9,362
Pittsburgh City Magistrates	L	4	B	1	404,830 1	N/A		3,392
PUERTO RICO--TOTAL ...								
Superior Court	G	2	A	6	102,051 O	100,282 O	98	3,117
District Court	L	2	A	1	164,601 C	162,024 C	98	5,028
Municipal Court	L	1	I	1	N/A	N/A		
RHODE ISLAND--STATE TOTAL								
Superior Court	G	2	D	1	13,549 E	13,410 E	99	1,374
District Court	L	2	A	1	68,862 1	63,211 1	92	6,984
Family Court	L	2	I	6	14,177 1	9,920 V		1,438
Municipal Court	L	1	I	1	N/A	N/A		
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes		Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Disposi-tions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL					1,262,666	*	1,270,989	*	101	36,866
Circuit Court	G	2	B	1	105,502	E	105,740	E	100	3,080
Family Court	L	2	I	6	71,260		69,854		98	2,081
Magistrate Court ...	L	4	B	1	690,000	K	701,451	K	102	20,146
Municipal Court	L	4	B	1	376,049	K	374,643	K	100	10,980
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	19,855		19,301		97	580
SOUTH DAKOTA--Circuit Court	G	3	B	4	219,969		210,084	1		31,025
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL										
Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Court	G	2	Z	6	158,863	O	140,675	O	89	3,272
General Sessions Court	L	1	M	6	3,145	V	2,524	V	80	
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	N/A		N/A			
Juvenile Court	L	2	I	1	N/A		N/A			
Municipal Court	L	1	M	1	N/A		N/A			
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL ...					10,328,658	*	8,552,781	*	83	60,751
District Court	G	2	B	3	591,580		587,994		99	3,524
County-Level Court .	L	2	B	4	664,945		668,182		100	3,961
Justice of the Peace Court	L	4	A	1	2,325,122	1	1,943,614	1	84	13,849
Municipal Court	L	4	A	1	6,747,011	1	5,352,991	1	79	40,187
UTAH--STATE TOTAL					796,268	*	706,119	*	89	47,397
District Court	G	2	J	3	33,863	C	48,744	C	144	2,016
Circuit Court	L	4	B	1	408,897	E	319,553	E	78	18,189
Justice of the Peace Court	L	4	B	1	305,580		289,441		95	18,189
Juvenile Court	L	2	I	1	47,928		48,381		101	2,853
VERMONT--STATE TOTAL .					174,090		176,007		101	31,768
District Court	G	2	D	4***	158,663		161,115		102	28,953
Superior Court	G	2	I	5	10,302		10,291		100	1,880
Probate Court	L	2	I	1	5,125		4,601		90	935
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL					2,967,202		2,944,460		99	50,257
Circuit Court	G	2	A	3	164,853		150,541		91	2,792
District Court	L	4	A	4	2,802,349		2,793,919		100	47,465

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Parking	Criminal unit of count	Support/ custody	Grand total filings and qualifying footnotes	Grand total dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL					2,038,770 *	1,804,861 *		44,927
Superior Court	G	2	G	6	174,862 E	150,038 E	86	3,853
District Court	L	4	C	1	786,474 K	774,849 K	99	17,331
Municipal Court	L	4	C	1	1,077,434	879,974 1		23,742
WEST VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL								
Circuit Court	G	2	J	5	51,186 E	55,433 E	108	2,698
Magistrate Court ...	L	2	J	1	296,842 K	286,663 K	97	15,648
Municipal Court	L	1	A	1	N/A	N/A		
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL						1,326,838 *		
Circuit Court	G	3	D	3	1,086,587 1	1,074,813 1	99	22,604
Municipal Court	L	3	A	1	N/A	252,025 1		
WYOMING--STATE TOTAL .								
District Court	G	2	J	5	10,319 E	10,619 E	103	2,106
County Court	L	1	J	4	109,981 1	109,471 1	100	22,445
Justice of the Peace Court	L	1	J	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	A	1	59,681 1	60,173 1	101	12,180

NOTE: The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table, as neither grand total caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1987. All other state trial courts with grand total jurisdiction are listed in the table, regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

SUPPORT/CUSTODY CODES:

1 = The court does not have jurisdiction over support/custody cases
2 = Support/custody caseload data are not available
3 = Only contested support/custody cases and all URESA cases (where the court has jurisdiction) are counted separately from marriage dissolution cases
4 = Both contested and uncontested support/custody cases and URESA cases (where the court has jurisdiction) are counted separately from marriage dissolution cases
5 = Support/custody is counted as a proceeding of the marriage dissolution and thus a marriage dissolution that involves support/custody is counted as one case
6 = Support/custody is counted as a proceeding of the marriage dissolution but URESA cases are counted separately

** = Nondissolution support/custody cases are also counted separately
*** = Court has only URESA jurisdiction

PARKING CODES:

1 = Parking data are unavailable
2 = Court does not have parking jurisdiction
3 = Only contested parking cases are included
4 = Both contested and uncontested parking cases are included
5 = Parking cases are handled administratively
6 = Uncontested parking cases are handled administratively; contested parking cases are handled by the court

CRIMINAL UNIT OF COUNT CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Single defendant--single charge
B = Single defendant--single incident (one/more charges)
C = Single defendant--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
D = Single defendant--one/more incidents
E = Single defendant--content varies with prosecutor
F = One/more defendants--single charge

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

G = One/more defendants--single incident (one/more charges)
H = One/more defendants--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
J = One/more defendants--one/more incidents
K = One/more defendants--content varies with prosecutor
L = Inconsistent during reporting year
Z = Both the defendant and charge components vary within the state

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:

Alabama--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, and preliminary hearings.
--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearings.

California--Justice Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers.
--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers.

Colorado--District, Denver Juvenile, Denver Probate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include extraditions, revocations, parole, and release from commitment hearings.

Georgia--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include probation revocation hearings.

Hawaii--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include criminal postconviction remedy proceedings.

Illinois--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings.

Maine--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.
--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearings.

Maryland--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include some postconviction remedy proceedings.

New Mexico--Magistrate Court--Grand total filed data include preliminary hearings.

North Dakota--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.

Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings.

Puerto Rico--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.

Utah--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

E: The following courts' data include postconviction remedy proceedings:

- Delaware--Superior Court
- Iowa--District Court (filed data)
- Louisiana--District Court (filed data)
- Nebraska--District Court
- Ohio--Court of Common Pleas
- Oregon--Circuit Court (filed data)
- Rhode Island--Superior Court
- South Carolina--Circuit Court
- Utah--Circuit Court
- Washington--Superior Court
- West Virginia--Circuit Court
- Wyoming--District Court

1: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:

- Arizona--Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include partial data from one municipality.
- Arkansas--City Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include cases from several courts which did not report.
  - --County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include real property rights and miscellaneous civil cases and data from several counties which did not report.
  - --Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include cases from several municipalities which did not report.
- Colorado--County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases and are missing civil data from Denver County.
- Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include some limited felony cases.
  - --Family Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include status petitions and child-victim petitions.
- Georgia--Magistrate Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include cases from 11 counties, and include only partial data from 15 counties.
- Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Housing, District, Probate/Family, Boston Municipal Departments)--Grand total filed data do not include parking cases from the District Court Department.
- Michigan--Probate Court--Grand total filed data do not include status petitions.
- New Hampshire--Superior Court--Grand total filed data do not include some criminal appeals cases.
- New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County--Grand total disposed data do not include limited felony and some miscellaneous traffic cases.
- New York--Criminal Court of the City of New York--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, and some ordinance violation cases.
- Oklahoma--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include any juvenile cases.
- Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Grand total filed data do not include some civil cases and postconviction criminal appeals.
  - --Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court--Grand total filed data do not include limited felony and DWI/DUI cases.
- Rhode Island--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include administrative agency appeals, mental health, and limited felony cases.
  - --Family Court--Grand total filed data do not include paternity/bastardy cases.
- South Dakota--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data do not include adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate, mental health, administrative agency appeals, and juvenile data.
- Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Grand total filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 79%.
  - --Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases and represent a reporting rate of 79%.
- Washington--Municipal Court--Grand total disposed data do not include some ordinance violation cases.
- Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include cases from Milwaukee County.
  - --Municipal Court--Grand total disposed data do not include cases from 41 courts which did not report.
- Wyoming--County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include appeals of trial court cases, felony and criminal appeals cases.
  - --Municipal Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include partial data from two municipalities.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 8: Reported grand total state trial court caseload, 1987. (continued)

K: The following courts' data do not include limited felony cases:
  Arizona--Justice of the Peace Court
  Delaware--Municipal Court of Wilmington
  Nebraska--County Court
  New Hampshire--District Court--Municipal Court
  New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County (filed data)
  North Carolina--District Court
  North Dakota--County Court
  Oregon--District Court
  South Carolina--Magistrate Court--Municipal Court
  Washington--District Court
  West Virginia--Magistrate Court

M: The following court's data do not include criminal appeals cases:
  Indiana--Superior and Circuit Court

N: The following court's data do not include ordinance violation cases:
  Maryland--District Court (filed data)

O: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:
  Alaska--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include criminal appeals cases.
  Connecticut--Superior Court--Grand total filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include mental health cases, and child-victim petitions. Grand total disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include mental health, some miscellaneous domestic relations, most small claims cases, and all child-victim petitions.
  Idaho--District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings, but do not include parking cases.
  Illinois--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include some preliminary hearings, but do not include parking cases from anywhere but Cook County.
  Iowa--District Court--Grand total disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include juvenile cases and a few domestic relations cases.
  Kentucky--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings, but represent only 10 months of data.
  --District Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include sentence review only proceedings, but do not include limited felony cases.
  Missouri--Circuit Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some ordinance violation and some parking cases.
  New York--Supreme and County Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include civil appeals and criminal appeals cases.
  Oregon--Circuit Court--Grand total disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include adoption, mental health, and some juvenile cases.
  Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Grand total filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include URESA cases.
  Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Court--Grand total filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include traffic/other violation cases. Grand total disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include DWI/DUI and traffic/other violation cases.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:
  Georgia--Juvenile Court--Grand total filed and disposed data do not include data from 58 counties.
  --Probate Court--Grand total filed data do not include most misdemeanor cases and do not represent all counties. Grand total disposed data do not include any civil cases, most misdemeanor cases, and do not represent all counties.
  Maryland--District Court--Grand total disposed data do not include civil and ordinance violation cases.

(continued on next page)

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Housing, District, Probate/Family, Boston Municipal Court Departments)--Grand total disposed data do not include civil cases from the Housing Court Department, miscellaneous civil data from the Probate/Family Court Department, criminal cases from the Boston Municipal, Housing and District Court Departments, moving traffic cases from the Boston Municipal Court Department, parking, ordinance violation and miscellaneous traffic cases, and juvenile data from the Juvenile Court Department.

Michigan--Probate Court--Grand total disposed data do not include paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, miscellaneous civil, traffic and juvenile cases.

New York--Surrogates' Court--Grand total disposed data do not include miscellaneous estate cases.

North Dakota--Municipal Court--Grand total disposed data do not include ordinance violation and parking cases.

Rhode Island--Family Court--Grand total disposed data do not include most marriage dissolution cases and all paternity/bastardy cases.

Tennessee--General Sessions Court--Grand total filed and disposed data are missing all but domestic relations cases, and represent only 16 of 94 courts.

TABLE 9: Reported Total State Trial Court Civil Caseload, 1987

State/Court name:	Support/ custody code	Juris- diction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo- sitions as a per- centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL						
Circuit Court	6**	G	84,329 0	80,891 0	96	2,065
District Court	1	L	159,638	149,613	94	3,910
Probate Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL			39,352 *	33,024 *	84	7,496
Superior Court	6**	G	15,168 E	14,644 E	97	2,889
District Court	5	L	24,184	18,380	76	4,606
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL			221,632 *	207,926 *	94	6,546
Superior Court	6	G	101,148	95,480	94	2,987
Justice of the Peace Court	1	L	118,878	110,840	93	3,511
Municipal Court	1	L	1,606 1	1,606 1	100	47
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL						
Chancery and Probate Court	3**	G	53,426	51,575	97	2,237
Circuit Court	1	G	36,401	36,104	99	1,524
City Court	1	L	64 1	48 1	75	3
County Court	1	L	4,314 1	2,466 1	57	181
Court of Common Pleas ..	1	L	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	1	L	33,617 1	21,660 1	64	1,408
Police Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL ..			1,789,532	1,346,724	75	6,469
Superior Court	6	G	674,912	514,244	76	2,440
Justice Court	1	L	40,407	29,804	74	146
Municipal Court	1	L	1,074,213	802,676	75	3,883
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL			217,646 *	211,513 *	97	6,603
District, Denver Juvenile and Probate Court	3	G	104,614	101,744	97	3,174
Water Court	1	G	1,381	1,786	129	42
County Court	1	L	111,651 1	107,983 1	97	3,387
CONNECTICUT--STATE TOTAL .			203,506 *			6,338
Superior Court	5**	G	149,851 0	85,929 X		4,667
Probate Court	1	L	53,655	N/A		1,671
DELAWARE--STATE TOTAL			65,921	61,814	94	10,236
Court of Chancery	1	G	3,352	2,734	82	521
Superior Court	1	G	4,565	3,584	79	709
Alderman's Court	1	L	0	0		
Court of Common Pleas ..	1	L	4,918	5,271	107	764
Family Court	3**	L	24,362	22,896	94	3,783
Justice of the Peace Court	1	L	28,724	27,329	95	4,460
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA-- Superior Court	6**	G	143,590	145,058	101	23,085
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL			806,082	718,315	89	6,704
Circuit Court	4	G	444,952	390,616	88	3,701
County Court	1	L	361,130	327,699	91	3,004

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Support/ custody code	Juris- diction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo- sitions as a per- centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL						
Superior Court	3	G	144,081 C	144,390 C	100	2,316
Civil Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
Magistrate Court	1	L	249,161 1	216,861 1	87	4,005
Municipal Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
Probate Court	1	L	23,029 1	N/A		370
State Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL			48,707 *	45,233 *	93	4,497
Circuit Court	6	G	26,031 C	24,831 C	95	2,404
District Court	1	L	22,676	20,402	90	2,094
IDAHO--District Court	6**	G	57,605	58,673	102	5,772
ILLINOIS--Circuit Court ..	6**	G	532,279 C	511,653 C	96	4,596
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL			407,970	408,869	100	7,376
Superior and Circuit Court	5	G	249,380	253,988	102	4,509
City and Town Court	1	L	16,370	17,487	107	296
County Court	1	L	66,751	62,839	94	1,207
Municipal Court of Marion County	1	L	11,493	11,844	103	208
Probate Court	1	L	2,203	1,725	78	40
Small Claims Court of Marion County	1	L	61,773	60,986	99	1,117
IOWA--District Court	6	G	170,471 E	173,666 0		6,015
KANSAS--District Court ...	6**	G	140,586	139,574	99	5,678
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL			187,195 *	173,377 *	93	5,023
Circuit Court	6	G	52,752 0	51,813 0	98	1,415
District Court	1	L	134,443 1	121,564 1	90	3,607
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL ...						
District Court	6	G	181,554 E	N/A		4,070
Family and Juvenile Court	4***	G	N/A	N/A		
City and Parish Court ..	1	L	73,928	53,132	72	1,657
Justice of the Peace Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
MAINE--STATE TOTAL						
Superior Court	6	G	5,981	6,047	101	504
Administrative Court ...	1	L	341	309	91	29
District Court	5	L	54,712	52,223	95	4,609
Probate Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Support/ custody code	Juris- diction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo- sitions as a per- centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL						
Circuit Court	6**	G	106,193	84,894	80	2,342
District Court	1	L	619,451	N/A		13,659
Orphan's Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
MASSACHUSETTS--Trial Court of the Commonwealth	5**	G	493,006	462,890 1		8,420
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL			647,043	609,862 *		7,033
Circuit Court	6**	G	170,541	182,572	107	1,854
Court of Claims	1	G	818	1,012	124	9
District Court	1	L	383,268	380,986	99	4,166
Municipal Court	1	L	992	1,271	128	11
Probate Court	1	L	91,424	44,021 V		994
MINNESOTA--District Court	6	G	231,244	232,681	101	5,446
MISSOURI--Circuit Court ..	6**	G	248,190 E	239,881 0		4,864
MONTANA--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	3	G	26,816 1	22,672 1	85	3,315
City Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
Justice of the Peace Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
NEBRASKA--STATE TOTAL			91,053 *	91,521 *	101	5,712
District Court	5	G	36,536 1	37,598 1	103	2,292
County Court	1	L	54,131	53,594	99	3,396
Workers' Compensation Court	1	L	386	329	85	33
NEVADA--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	2	G	N/A	N/A		
Justice Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
NEW HAMPSHIRE--STATE TOTAL			81,548			7,715
Superior Court	5	G	19,201	18,507	96	1,817
District Court	1	L	45,470	N/A		4,302
Municipal Court	1	L	478	N/A		45
Probate Court	1	L	16,399	N/A		1,551
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL ..						
Superior Court	6**	G	638,975 1	636,795 1	100	8,329
Surrogates' Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
Tax Court	1	L	4,619	4,687	101	60

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Support/ custody code	Juris- diction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes	Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo- sitions as a per- centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL ..						
District Court	6**	G	51,013	48,489	95	3,401
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	1	L	8,408	10,470	125	561
Magistrate Court	1	L	13,326	11,140	84	888
Probate Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
NEW YORK--STATE TOTAL						
Supreme and County Court	5	G	242,503 O	184,237 O	76	1,360
Civil Court of the City of New York............	1	L	251,981	248,588	99	1,414
Court of Claims	1	L	2,072	2,090	101	12
District and City Court	1	L	134,618	119,332	89	755
Family Court	4	L	390,636	380,572	97	2,192
Surrogates' Court	1	L	108,637	59,359 V		610
Town and Village Court .	1	L	N/A	N/A		
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL			462,909	441,103	95	7,218
Superior Court	1	G	97,979	89,551	91	1,528
District Court	6**	L	364,930	351,552	96	5,690
NORTH DAKOTA--STATE TOTAL			32,036	30,235	94	4,767
District Court	6**	G	15,382	14,733	96	2,289
County Court	1	L	16,654	15,502	93	2,478
OHIO--STATE TOTAL			728,543 *	709,809 *	97	6,756
Court of Common Pleas ..	6**	G	337,637 E	331,990 E	98	3,131
County Court	1	L	23,604	23,217	98	219
Court of Claims	1	L	4,513	4,355	96	42
Municipal Court	1	L	362,789	350,247	97	3,364
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	6	G	222,754	201,691	91	6,808
Court of Tax Review	1	L	N/A	N/A		
OREGON--STATE TOTAL						
Circuit Court	6**	G	76,636 C	70,845 O		2,813
Tax Court	1	G	N/A	N/A		
County Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
District Court	1	L	73,666	69,384	94	2,704
Justice Court	1	L	N/A	N/A		
PENNSYLVANIA--STATE TOTAL			577,182 *	551,414 *	96	4,836
Court of Common Pleas ..	4	G	262,333 1	253,406 1	97	2,198
District Justice Court .	1	L	203,752	194,843	96	1,707
Philadelphia Municipal Court	1	L	105,251 C	103,165 C	98	882
Pittsburgh City Magistrates	1	L	5,846	N/A		49

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Support/ custody code	Juris- diction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes		Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispo- sitions as a per- centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
PUERTO RICO--TOTAL			112,032	*	109,952	*	98	3,422
Superior Court	6	G	65,146	O	63,935	O	98	1,990
District Court	1	L	46,886	C	46,017	C	98	1,432
RHODE ISLAND--STATE TOTAL								
Superior Court	1	G	8,405	E	8,199	E	98	852
District Court	1	L	33,954	1	31,455	1	93	3,444
Family Court	6	L	7,418	1	3,422	V		752
Probate Court	1	L	N/A		N/A			
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL			257,606	*	260,278	*	101	7,521
Circuit Court	1	G	54,917	C	55,460	C	101	1,603
Family Court	6**	L	58,634		57,195		98	1,712
Magistrate Court	1	L	124,200		128,322		103	3,626
Probate Court	1	L	19,855		19,301		97	580
SOUTH DAKOTA--Circuit Court	4	G	40,948		35,075	1		5,775
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL								
Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Court	6**	G	111,102	C	99,852	C	90	2,288
General Sessions Court	6**	L	3,145	V	2,524	V	80	
Juvenile Court	1	L	N/A		N/A			
Probate Court	1	L	N/A		N/A			
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL			918,818	*	873,533	*	95	5,473
District Court	6**	G	442,052	C	439,517	C	99	2,633
County-Level Court	6**	L	197,414	C	217,723	C	110	1,176
Justice of the Peace	1	L	278,890	1	215,831	1	77	1,661
Municipal Court	1	L	462	1	462	1	100	3
UTAH--STATE TOTAL			129,928	*	92,153	*	71	7,734
District Court	3	G	29,543	E	40,412	E	137	1,759
Circuit Court	1	L	97,053		48,423		50	5,777
Justice of the Peace Court	1	L	3,332		3,318		100	198
VERMONT--STATE TOTAL			33,380		32,934		99	6,091
District Court	4***	G	18,038		18,073		100	3,292
Superior Court	5	G	10,217		10,260		100	1,864
Probate Court	1	L	5,125		4,601		90	935
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL			971,498		960,907		99	16,455
Circuit Court	3	G	87,020		78,012		90	1,474
District Court	4	L	884,478		882,895		100	14,981
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL			231,638	*	195,451	*	84	5,104
Superior Court	6	G	129,842	E	110,788	E	85	2,861
District Court	1	L	101,196		83,511		83	2,230
Municipal Court	1	L	600		576		96	13

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Support/ custody code	Juris- diction	Total civil filings and qualifying footnotes		Total civil dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispo- sitions as a per- centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
WEST VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL			87,633		90,152		103	4,620
Circuit Court	5	G	37,292		41,194		110	1,966
Magistrate Court	1	L	50,341		48,958		97	2,654
WISCONSIN--Circuit Court .	6**	G	347,766	0	347,087	0	100	7,235
WYOMING--STATE TOTAL								
District Court	5	G	7,587	C	9,194	C		1,548
County Court	4	L	15,864	1	16,186	1	102	3,238
Justice of the Peace Court	1	L	N/A		N/A			

NOTE: The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table as neither civil caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1987. All other state trial courts with civil jurisdiction are listed in the table regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

Support/Custody Codes:

1 = The court does not have jurisdiction over support/custody cases
2 = Support/custody caseload data are not available
3 = Only contested support/custody cases and all URESA cases (where the court has jurisdiction) are counted separately from marriage dissolution cases
4 = Both contested and uncontested support/custody cases and URESA cases (where the court has jurisdiction) are counted separately from marriage dissolution cases
5 = Support/custody is counted as a proceeding of the marriage dissolution and thus a marriage dissolution that involves support/custody is counted as one case
6 = Support/custody is counted as a proceeding of the marriage dissolution but URESA cases are counted separately

**Nondisolution support/custody are also counted separately

***Court has only URESA jurisdiction

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
  Georgia--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include probation revocation hearings.
  Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include criminal postconviction remedy proceedings and some criminal and traffic/other violation cases.
  Illinois--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include miscellaneous criminal cases.
  Oregon--Circuit Court--Total civil filed data include criminal appeals cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.
  Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include some ordinance violation cases.
  Puerto Rico--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.
  South Carolina--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include criminal appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 9: Reported total state trial court civil caseload, 1987. (continued)

Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings and miscellaneous criminal cases.
Texas--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include some juvenile cases.
--County-Level Courts--Total civil filed and disposed data include child-victim petition cases.
Wyoming--District Court--Total civil filed data include criminal appeals cases and postconviction remedy proceedings. Total civil disposed data include criminal appeals, juvenile, cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.

E: The following courts' data include postconviction remedy proceedings:
Alaska--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postcoviction remedy proceedings.
Iowa--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include miscellaneous criminal cases.
Louisiana--District Court--Total civil filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings.
Missouri--Circuit Court--Total civil filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings.
Ohio--Court of Common Pleas
Rhode Island--Superior Court
Utah--District Court
Washington--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings.

1: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
Arizona--Municipal Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include partial data from one municipality.
Arkansas--City Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include cases from several cities.
--County Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include real property rights and miscellaneous civil cases and data from several counties.
--Municipal Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include data from 14 municipalities, and partial data from 14 others.
Colorado--County Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include cases from Denver County.
Georgia--Magistrate Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include any cases from 11 counties, and partial data from 15 counties.
--Probate Court--Total civil filed data do not include cases from several counties.

(continued on next page)

Kentucky--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include paternity/bastardy cases.
Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total civil disposed data do not include real property rights and small claims cases from the Housing Court Department and miscellaneous civil cases from the Probate/Family Court Department.
Montana--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include some appeals of trial court cases.
Nebraska--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include civil appeals.
New Jersey--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include a few domestic relations cases.
Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Total civil data do not include some unclassified civil cases.
Rhode Island--District Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include administrative agency appeals and mental health cases.
--Family Court--Total civil filed data do not include paternity/bastardy and adoption cases.
South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total civil disposed data do not include adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate, mental health, and administrative agency appeals cases.
Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Total civil filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 79%.
--Municipal Court--Total civil filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 79%.
Wyoming--County Court--Total civil filed and disposed data do not include appeals of trial court cases.

O: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:
Alabama--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include URESA cases.
Connecticut--Superior Court--Total civil filed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include mental health cases.
Iowa--District Court--Total civil disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include a few domestic relations cases.
Kentucky--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include some postconviction remedy proceedings, but represent only 10 months of CY 87.
Missouri--Circuit Court--Total civil disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include adoption and miscellaneous domestic relations cases.
New York--Supreme and County Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include civil appeals cases.
Oregon--Circuit Court--Total civil disposed data include criminal appeals and postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include adoption and mental health cases.
Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases, but do not include URESA cases.
Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include criminal appeals cases, but do not include data from Milwaukee County.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:
Michigan--Probate Court--Total civil disposed data do not include paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, and miscellaneous civil cases.
New York--Surrogates' Court--Total civil disposed data do not include miscellaneous estate cases.
Rhode Island--Family Court--Total civil disposed data do not include most marriage dissolution cases and all adoption cases.
Tennessee--General Sessions Court--Total civil filed and disposed data include only domestic relations cases for 16 of 94 courts.

X: The following court's data are less than 75% complete and overinclusive:
Connecticut--Superior Court--Total civil disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include mental health, some miscellaneous domestic relations, and most small claims cases.

TABLE 10: Reported Total State Trial Court Criminal Caseload, 1987

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes		Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL									
Circuit Court	G	G	A	34,125	E	32,262	E	95	1,151
District Court	L	B	B	113,023	C	106,504	C	94	3,811
Municipal Court	L	M	B	N/A		N/A			
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL				30,444	*	27,985	*	92	8,624
Superior Court	G	B	A	2,661	M	2,389	M	90	754
District Court	L	B	B	27,783	C	25,596	C	92	7,871
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL				298,742	*	253,736	*	85	12,110
Superior Court	G	D	A	24,237		22,245		92	982
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Z	B	66,274	K	56,400	K	85	2,686
Municipal Court	L	Z	B	208,231	1	175,091	1	84	8,441
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL									
Circuit Court	G	A	A	32,247		30,622		95	1,853
City Court	L	A	B	5,989	0	4,787	0	80	344
Municipal Court	L	A	B	132,315	0	99,404	0	75	7,604
Police Court	L	A	B	N/A		N/A			
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL				1,040,241	*	871,199	*	84	5,109
Superior Court	G	B	A	108,329		102,160		94	532
Justice Court	L	B	B	62,820	0	51,015	0	81	309
Municipal Court	L	B	B	869,092	0	718,024	0	83	4,268
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL				57,370	*	57,327	*	100	2,368
District, Denver Juvenile and Probate Court	G	D	B	17,104	C	17,478	C	102	706
County Court	L	D	B	40,266	1	39,849	1	99	1,662
CONNECTICUT--Superior Court	G	E	A	159,617	0	151,864	0	95	6,504
DELAWARE--STATE TOTAL				87,359	*	86,527	*	99	18,124
Superior Court	G	B	A	4,464	E	4,731	E	106	926
Alderman's Court	L	A	B	3,611	F	3,547	F	98	749
Court of Common Pleas	L	A	B	21,413	1	20,381	1	95	4,443
Family Court	L	B	B	3,498		3,282		94	726
Justice of the Peace Court	L	A	B	40,688	1	40,367	1	99	8,441
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	A	B	13,685	0	14,219	0	104	2,839
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Superior Court	G	B	G	41,608	L	42,377	L	102	8,561
FLORIDA--STATE TOTAL				556,540		484,676		87	5,972
Circuit Court	G	E	A	160,786		149,030		93	1,725
County Court	L	A	B	395,754		335,646		85	4,247

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes	Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL							
Superior Court	G	G	A	70,577 C	67,694 C	96	1,573
Civil Court	L	M	M	N/A	N/A		
County Recorder's Court	L	M	M	N/A	N/A		
Magistrate Court	L	B	B	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	M	M	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court and City of Atlanta ..	L	M	M	N/A	N/A		
Probate Court	L	B	A	2,506 V	2,373 V	95	
State Court	L	G	A	N/A	N/A		
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL				35,401 *	33,186 *	94	4,442
Circuit Court	G	G	B	3,845 1	2,923 1	76	482
District Court	L	A	C	31,556 1	30,263 1	96	3,959
IDAHO--District Court	G	D	F	60,536 C	59,663 C	99	8,748
ILLINOIS--Circuit Court	G	G	A	478,096 0	496,077 0	104	5,594
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL				228,540 *	208,197 *		5,628
Superior and Circuit Court	G	B	A	77,581 M	68,776 M	89	1,910
City and Town Court	L	B	F	35,856 C	37,461 C	104	883
County Court	L	B	F	53,977	50,916	94	1,329
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	B	F	60,279	50,190	83	1,484
Small Claims Court of Marion County ..	L	I	I	847	854	101	21
IOWA--District Court	G	B	A	45,115 1	43,321 1	96	2,146
KANSAS--District Court	G	B	C	36,301	37,549	103	1,988
KENTUCKY--STATE TOTAL				162,591 *	156,892 *	96	5,954
Circuit Court	G	B	A	11,775 0	11,511 0	98	431
District Court	L	B	F	150,816 0	145,381 0	96	5,522
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL				204,852 *			
District Court	G	Z	A	72,523 L	N/A		2,305
City and Parish Court	L	B	F	132,329 X	113,709 X	86	
MAINE--STATE TOTAL				42,680 *	38,111 *	89	
Superior Court	G	B	A	8,978 0	8,553 0	95	1,016
District Court	L	B	F	33,702 V	29,558 V	88	
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL				240,980 *	187,883 *		7,067
Circuit Court	G	B	A	54,980 C	44,698 C	81	1,612
District Court	L	B	A	186,000	143,185 L		5,455

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes		Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult popula-tion
MASSACHUSETTS--STATE TOTAL				334,230		9,219	*		7,396
Trial Court of the Commonwealth: Superior Court Dept.	G	D	A	6,790		6,069		89	150
Trial Court of the Commonwealth: Housing, District, Boston Municipal and Juvenile Court Dept.	G	D	B	327,440		3,150	V		7,246
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL				294,160	*	280,899	*	95	4,364
Circuit Court	G	B	A	49,565		47,458		96	735
District Court	L	B	B	242,626	0	231,382	0	95	3,600
Municipal Court	L	B	B	1,969	0	2,059	0	105	29
MINNESOTA--District Court	G	B	B	167,616	0	159,111	0	95	5,347
MISSOURI--Circuit Court	G	B	A	113,543		103,469		91	2,993
MONTANA--STATE TOTAL									
District Court	G	G	A	3,282	C	3,916	C	119	561
City Court	L	B	B	N/A		N/A			
Justice of the Peace Court	L	B	B	N/A		N/A			
Municipal Court	L	B	B	N/A		N/A			
NEBRASKA--STATE TOTAL				66,999	*	65,791	*	98	5,726
District Court	G	B	A	4,898	C	5,113	C	104	419
County Court	L	B	F	62,101	0	60,678	0	98	5,308
NEVADA--STATE TOTAL									
District Court	G	Z	A	N/A		N/A			
Justice Court	L	Z	B	N/A		N/A			
Municipal Court	L	Z	B	N/A		N/A			
NEW HAMPSHIRE--STATE TOTAL				52,935	*				6,644
Superior Court	G	A	A	7,951	I	7,569			1,005
District Court	L	A	B	43,718	K	N/A			5,527
Municipal Court	L	A	B	1,266	K	N/A			160
NEW JERSEY--STATE TOTAL				394,675		369,080		94	6,757
Superior Court	G	B	A	44,272		41,724		94	758
Municipal Court	L	B	B	350,403		327,356		93	5,999
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL				127,281	*	101,299	*	80	12,076
District Court	G	E	A	9,906		9,246		93	940
Magistrate Court	L	E	B	50,657	C	43,822	C	87	4,806
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	L	E	B	66,718	0	48,231	0	72	6,330

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes		Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
NEW YORK--STATE TOTAL									
Supreme and County Court	G	E	A	62,940	M	62,630	M	100	468
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	E	D	278,670		260,256		93	2,070
District and City Court	L	E	D	217,509	F	201,967	F	93	1,615
Town and Village Justice Court	L	E	B	N/A		N/A			
NORTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL				570,027	*	556,253	*	98	11,910
Superior Court	G	B	A	83,478		81,136		97	1,744
District Court	L	C	G	486,549	O	475,117	O	98	10,166
NORTH DAKOTA--STATE TOTAL									
District Court	G	B	A	1,554	C	1,413	C	91	320
County Court	L	E	F	15,652	K	16,483	K	105	3,227
Municipal Court	L	B	B	N/A		N/A			
OHIO--STATE TOTAL									
Court of Common Pleas	G	B	C	39,376		38,994		99	495
County Court	L	B	E	38,905	F	38,509	F	99	490
Mayor's Court	L	M	M	N/A		N/A			
Municipal Court	L	B	E	369,386	F	381,655	F	103	4,648
OKLAHOMA--District Court	G	J	A	71,890	F	64,111	F	89	3,022
OREGON--STATE TOTAL									
Circuit Court	G	E	G	24,591	M	22,679	M	92	1,207
District Court	L	E	G	71,508	K	65,952	K	92	3,509
Justice Court	L	E	B	N/A		N/A			
Municipal Court	L	A	B	N/A		N/A			
PENNSYLVANIA--STATE TOTAL				597,623	*				6,578
Court of Common Pleas	G	B	A	106,972	I	104,688	I	98	1,177
District Justice Court	L	B	B	439,011	F	370,603	F	84	4,832
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	B	B	39,973	O	42,052	O	105	440
Pittsburgh City Magistrates	L	B	B	11,667	O	N/A			128
PUERTO RICO--TOTAL				73,002	*	72,072	*	99	
Superior Court	G	A	B	30,352	C	29,946	C	99	
District Court	L	A	B	42,650	O	42,126	O	99	
RHODE ISLAND--STATE TOTAL				40,052	*	36,967	*	92	5,291
Superior Court	G	D	A	5,144		5,211		101	680
District Court	L	D	B	34,908	O	31,756	O	91	4,611
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL				244,835	*				9,856
Circuit Court	G	B	A	50,585	M	50,280	M	99	2,036
Magistrate Court	L	B	E	124,200	X	123,424	X	99	
Municipal Court	L	B	E	70,050	K	N/A			2,820

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unit of count	Point of filing	Total criminal filings and qualifying footnotes		Total criminal dispositions and qualifying footnotes		Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 adult population
SOUTH DAKOTA--Circuit Court	G	B	B	36,403		18,833	V		7,096
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL									
Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Court	G	Z	A	47,761	1	40,823	1		1,325
General Sessions Court	L	M	M	N/A		N/A			
Municipal Court	L	M	M	N/A		N/A			
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL				1,655,686	*	1,246,184	*		14,025
District Court	G	B	A	137,355		134,885		98	1,164
County-Level Court	L	B	F	448,463		378,341	1		3,799
Justice of the Peace Court	L	A	B	592,157	1	396,100	1	67	5,016
Municipal Court	L	A	B	477,711	1	336,858	1	71	4,047
UTAH--STATE TOTAL				106,996	*	107,420	*	100	10,180
District Court	G	J	A	4,320	C	8,332	C	193	411
Circuit Court	L	B	A	56,629	O	60,007	O	106	5,388
Justice of the Peace Court	L	B	B	46,047	C	39,081	C	85	4,381
VERMONT--STATE TOTAL				21,361	*	20,154	*	94	5,248
District Court	G	D	C	21,276	F	20,123	F	95	5,228
Superior Court	G	I	I	85		31		36	21
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL				488,598	*	486,137	*	99	10,992
Circuit Court	G	A	A	77,833	F	72,529	F	93	1,751
District Court	L	A	E	410,765	L	413,608	L	101	9,241
WASHINGTON--STATE TOTAL				219,772	*	187,415	*	85	6,523
Superior Court	G	G	A	22,348		19,398		87	663
District Court	L	C	B	107,828	K	84,222	K	78	3,201
Municipal Court	L	C	B	89,596		83,795		94	2,659
WEST VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL									
Circuit Court	G	J	A	7,497	E	7,770	E	104	533
Magistrate Court	L	J	E	137,449	K	129,801	K	94	9,769
Municipal Court	L	A	B	N/A		N/A			
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL									
Circuit Court	G	D	C	68,777	1	64,536	1	94	1,944
Municipal Court	L	A	B	N/A		N/A			
WYOMING--STATE TOTAL									
District Court	G	J	A	1,353	M	1,425	M	105	396
County Court	L	J	B	8,281	1	N/A			2,421
Justice of the Peace Court	L	J	B	N/A		N/A			
Municipal Court	L	A	B	1,798	V	N/A			

(continued on next page)

F: The following courts' data include ordinance violation cases:
- Delaware--Alderman's Court
- New York--District and City Court
- Ohio--County Court--Municipal Court
- Oklahoma--District Court
- Pennsylvania--District Justice Court
- Vermont--District Court
- Virginia--Circuit Court

I: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
- Arizona--Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data are missing partial data from one municipality.
- Colorado--County Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony and DWI/DUI cases.
- Delaware--Court of Common Pleas--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some limited felony cases.
  --Justice of the Peace Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include most DWI/DUI cases.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include reopened prior cases.
  --District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some criminal cases that could not be separated from ordinance violation cases.
- Iowa--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some misdemeanor cases.
- New Hampshire--Superior Court--Total criminal filed data do not include some criminal appeals cases.
- Pennsylvania--Court of Common Pleas--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include some criminal appeals cases.
- Tennessee--Circuit, Criminal and Chancery Court--Total criminal filed data do not include miscellaneous criminal cases. Total criminal disposed data do not include miscellaneous criminal and DWI/DUI cases.
- Texas--County-Level Courts--Total criminal disposed data do not include some criminal appeals cases.
  --Justice of the Peace Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data represent a reporting rate of 79%.
  --Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include limited felony cases and represent a 79% reporting rate.
- Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include DWI/DUI data from Milwaukee County, or any criminal appeals cases.
- Wyoming--County Court--Total criminal filed data do not include felony and criminal appeals cases.

K: The following courts' data do not include limited felony cases:
- Arizona--Justice of the Peace Court
- New Hampshire--District Court (filed data)--Municipal Court (filed data)
- North Dakota--County Court
- Oregon--District Court
- South Carolina----Municipal Court (filed data)
- Washington--District Court
- West Virginia--Magistrate Court

L: The following courts' data do not include DWI/DUI cases:
- District of Columbia--Superior Court
- Louisiana--District Court--This figure is estimated by the State Court Administrator's Office on the basis that 75% of criminal cases reported (290,092) are traffic cases.
- Maryland--District Court (disposed data)
- Virginia--District Court

M: The following courts' data do not include criminal appeals cases:
- Alaska--Superior Court
- Indiana--Superior Court and Circuit Court
- New York--Supreme and County Court
- Oregon--Circuit Court
- South Carolina--Circuit Court
- Wyoming--District Court

O: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:
- Arkansas--City Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include data from all courts.
  --Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include cases from several municipalities.
- California--Justice Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers, and ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.
  --Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some ordinance violation cases and preliminary hearing bindovers and transfers, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.
- Connecticut--Superior Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.
- Delaware--Municipal Court of Wilmington--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include limited felony and most DWI/DUI cases.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 10: Reported total state trial court criminal caseload, 1987. (continued)

NOTE: The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table, as neither criminal caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1987. All other state trial courts with criminal jurisdiction are listed in the table regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

UNIT OF COUNT CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Single defendant--single charge
B = Single defendant--single incident (one/more charges)
C = Single defendant--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
D = Single defendant--one/more incidents
E = Single defendant--content varies with prosecutor
F = One/more defendants--single charge
G = One/more defendants--single incident (one/more charges)
H = One/more defendants--single incident/maximum number charges (usually two)
J = One/more defendants--one/more incidents
K = One/more defendants--content varies with prosecutor
L = Inconsistent during reporting year
Z = Both the defendant and charge components vary within the state

POINT OF FILING CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = At the filing of the information/indictment
B = At the filing of the complaint
C = When defendant enters plea/initial appearance
D = When docketed
E = At issuing of warrant
F = At filing of information/complaint
G = Varies (at filing of the complaint, information, indictment)

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
Alabama--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings.
Alaska--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some moving traffic cases and all ordinance violation cases.
Colorado--District, Denver Juvenile, and Denver Probate Courts--Total criminal filed and disposed data include extraditions, revocations, parole, and release from commitment hearings.
Georgia--Superior Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include traffic/other violation cases.
Idaho--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violations, postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings.
Indiana--City and Town Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some ordinance violation cases.
Maryland--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some postconviction remedy proceedings.
Montana--District Court--Total criminal filed data include appeals of trial court cases.
Nebraska--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include civil appeals cases and postconviction remedy proceedings.
New Mexico--Magistrate Court--Total criminal filed data include preliminary hearing proceedings.
North Dakota--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include sentence review only and postconviction remedy proceedings.
Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.
Utah--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy and all sentence review only proceedings.
--Justice of the Peace Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some moving traffic violation cases.

E: The following courts' data include postconviction remedy proceedings:
Alabama--Circuit Court
Delaware--Superior Court
West Virginia--Circuit Court

(continued on next page)

Illinois--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include some preliminary hearings and some ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI and miscellaneous criminal cases.

Kentucky--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include sentence review only and some postconviction remedy proceedings, and represent only 10 months of data.

--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases and sentence review only proceedings, but do not include limited felony cases.

Maine--Superior Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, postconviction remedy and sentence review only proceedings, but do not include DWI/DUI some criminal appeals cases.

Michigan--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

--Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Minnesota--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include some DWI/DUI cases.

Nebraska--County Court--Total criminal data include ordinance violations, but do not include limited felony cases.

New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include limited felony cases.

North Carolina--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violations, but do not include limited felony cases.

Pennsylvania--Pittsburgh City Magistrates--Total criminal filed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include limited felony and limited DWI/DUI cases.

--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include preliminary hearing proceedings, but do not include some misdemeanor cases.

Puerto Rico--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

Rhode Island--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include moving traffic violation and ordinance violation cases, but do not include limited felony cases.

Utah--Circuit Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include postconviction remedy proceedings, but do not include some miscellaneous criminal cases.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:

Georgia--Probate Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include DWI/DUI and most misdemeanor cases, and represent only 51 of 95 counties.

Maine--District Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data do not include DWI/DUI and some misdemeanor cases.

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth (Housing, District, Boston Municipal, and Juvenile Court Departments) --Total criminal disposed data do not include felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal, and some criminal appeals cases.

South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total criminal disposed data do not include some misdemeanor cases.

Wyoming--Municipal Court--Total criminal filed data do not include misdemeanors and are missing partial data from two municipalities.

X: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete and overinclusive:

Louisiana--City and Parish Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include ordinance violation cases, but do not include DWI/DUI cases.

South Carolina--Magistrate Court--Total criminal filed and disposed data include miscellaneous juvenile cases, but do not include felony and DWI/DUI cases. (Filed data were estimated using percentages provided by the AOC).

TABLE 11: Reported Total State Trial Court Traffic/Other Violation Caseload, 1987

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Park-ing	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	L	1	266,652	250,622	94	6,531
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
ALASKA--District Court	L	3	83,949 1	83,949 1	100	15,990
ARIZONA--STATE TOTAL			1,269,095 *	1,185,460 *	93	37,481
Justice of the Peace Court	L	1	456,407	438,708	96	13,479
Municipal Court	L	1	812,688 1	746,752 1	92	24,001
ARKANSAS--STATE TOTAL						
City Court	L	1	17,549 1	8,982 1	51	735
Municipal Court	L	1	292,098 1	204,841 1	70	12,232
Police Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
CALIFORNIA--STATE TOTAL			15,862,453 *	12,855,196 *	81	57,342
Justice Court	L	3	509,766 0	423,735 0	83	1,843
Municipal Court	L	3	15,352,687 0	12,431,461 0	81	55,499
COLORADO--STATE TOTAL						
County Court	L	2	214,832 G	203,249 G	95	6,518
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
CONNECTICUT--Superior Court	G	5	305,787 0	328,445 0	107	9,523
DELAWARE--STATE TOTAL			169,663 *	167,263 *	99	26,345
Alderman's Court	L	4	18,841 N	18,462 N	98	2,926
Family Court	L	2	440	455	103	68
Justice of the Peace Court	L	2	131,839 C	130,579 C	99	20,472
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	5	18,543 0	17,767 0	96	2,879
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Superior Court	G	6	21,594 G	21,624 G	100	3,472
FLORIDA--County Court	L	5	3,294,511	2,902,305	88	27,402
GEORGIA--STATE TOTAL						
Juvenile Court	G	2	4,864 V	3,482 V	72	
Superior Court	G	2	N/A	N/A		
County Recorder's Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Magistrate Court	L	2	39,624 1	23,499 1	59	637
Municipal Court and City of Atlanta	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Probate Court	L	2	77,783 X	72,103 X	93	
State Court	L	2	N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Park-ing	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
HAWAII--STATE TOTAL			827,057 *	755,701 *	91	76,367
Circuit Court	G	2	344 i	243 i	71	32
District Court	L	4	826,713 C	755,458 C	91	76,335
IDAHO--District Court	G	3	220,280 V	219,292 V	100	
ILLINOIS--Circuit Court	G	4	6,027,756 O	4,186,216 O	69	51,974
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL			582,066 *	574,231 *	99	10,524
Superior and Circuit Court	G	3	167,177	143,030	86	3,023
City and Town Court	L	3	141,840 i	144,729 i	102	2,564
County Court	L	4	131,128	134,012	102	2,371
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	3	141,921	152,460	107	2,566
IOWA--District Court	G	3	701,101 C	682,110 C	97	24,739
KANSAS--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	G	4	230,713 i	230,066 i	100	9,318
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
KENTUCKY--District Court	L	3	285,959 N	277,536 N	97	7,673
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	G	1	217,569 G	N/A		4,877
City and Parish Court	L	1	423,364 O	346,902 O	82	9,490
Justice of the Peace Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Mayor's Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
MAINE--STATE TOTAL			204,183 *	195,282 *	96	17,202
Superior Court	G	2	2,925 O	2,922 O	100	246
District Court	L	4	201,258 C	192,360 C	96	16,955
MARYLAND--District Court	L	1	876,757 N	837,370 O		19,333
MASSACHUSETTS--Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	1	1,273,813 G	1,117,981 O		21,756
MICHIGAN--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	L	4	2,476,158 O	2,471,975 O	100	26,915
Municipal Court	L	4	39,415 O	40,277 O	102	428
Probate Court	L	2	N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Park-ing	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
MINNESOTA--District Court	G	4	1,498,905 0	1,469,564 0	98	35,302
MISSOURI--Circuit Court	G	3	456,540 1	432,461 1	95	8,947
MONTANA--STATE TOTAL						
City Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Justice of the Peace Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
NEBRASKA--County Court	L	1	267,781 N	270,514 N	101	16,799
NEVADA--STATE TOTAL						
Justice Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
NEW HAMPSHIRE--STATE TOTAL			274,827			26,001
District Court	L	4	268,900	N/A		25,440
Municipal Court	L	4	5,927	N/A		561
NEW JERSEY--Municipal Court	L	4	5,434,673	4,800,949	88	70,838
NEW MEXICO--STATE TOTAL						
Magistrate Court	L	3	53,296	46,036	86	3,553
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	L	4	362,007 N	226,673 1		24,134
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
NEW YORK--STATE TOTAL						
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	4	102,183 V	99,916 V	98	
District and City Court	L	4	1,293,106 N	1,293,106 N	100	7,254
Town and Village Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
NORTH CAROLINA--District Court	L	6	975,488 N	925,997 N	95	15,211
NORTH DAKOTA--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	G	4	575	N/A		86
County Court	L	1	58,976	58,954	100	8,776
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	47,396 X		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Parking	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
OHIO--STATE TOTAL						
Court of Common Pleas	G	2	124,963	123,081	98	1,159
County Court	L	5	231,215 N	230,356 N	100	2,144
Mayor's Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	5	1,539,067 N	1,537,803 N	100	14,272
OKLAHOMA--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	G	2	211,621 N	192,267 N	91	6,468
Municipal Court Not of Record	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Criminal Court of Record	L	1	N/A	N/A		
OREGON--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	L	1	319,996	346,069	108	11,747
Justice Court	L	3	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	3	N/A	N/A		
PENNSYLVANIA--STATE TOTAL			2,904,196 *			24,331
District Justice Court	L	4	1,372,900 N	1,245,772 N	91	11,502
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	2	26,559 O	26,669 O	100	223
Philadelphia Traffic Court	L	1	1,117,420	342,134	31	9,362
Pittsburgh City Magistrates	L	4	387,317 N	N/A		3,245
PUERTO RICO--TOTAL						
District Court	L	2	75,065 O	73,881 O	98	2,280
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
RHODE ISLAND--STATE TOTAL						
District Court	L	2	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL						
Family Court	L	2	N/A	N/A		
Magistrate Court	L	4	441,600 C	449,705 C	102	12,893
Municipal Court	L	4	305,999	374,643 C		8,934
SOUTH DAKOTA--Circuit Court	G	3	139,420	156,176 C		19,664
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL						
Circuit, Criminal, and Chancery Court	G	2	N/A	N/A		
General Sessions Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL			7,739,403 *	6,416,938 *		46,098
County-Level Court	L	2	16,490	69,584 C		98
Justice of the Peace Court	L	4	1,454,075 1	1,331,683 1	92	8,661
Municipal Court	L	4	6,268,838 1	5,015,671 1	80	37,339

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Park-ing	Total traffic filings and qualifying footnotes	Total traffic dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a percen-tage of filings	Filings per 100,000 total population
UTAH--STATE TOTAL			520,199 *	466,893 *	90	30,964
Circuit Court	L	4	255,215 C	211,123 C	83	15,191
Justice of the Peace Court	L	4	256,201 1	247,042 1	96	15,250
Juvenile Court	L	2	8,783	8,728	99	523
VERMONT--District Court	G	2	117,533 N	121,169 N	103	21,448
VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL						
Circuit Court	G	2	N/A	N/A		
District Court	L	4	1,422,578 G	1,417,890 G	100	24,095
WASHINGTON--State Total			1,564,688	1,402,719 *		34,480
District Court	L	4	577,450	607,116	105	12,725
Municipal Court	L	4	987,238	795,603 1		21,755
WEST VIRGINIA--STATE TOTAL						
Magistrate Court	L	2	109,052	107,904	99	5,749
Municipal Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
WISCONSIN--STATE TOTAL				884,266 *		
Circuit Court	G	3	638,981 1	632,241 1	99	13,293
Municipal Court	L	3	N/A	252,025 0		
WYOMING--STATE TOTAL						
County Court	L	1	85,836	93,284 C		17,518
Justice of the Peace Court	L	1	N/A	N/A		
Municipal Court	L	1	57,883 0	60,173 0	104	11,813

NOTE: Parking violations are defined as part of the traffic/other violation caseload. However, states, and courts within a state, differ in the extent to which parking violations are processed through the courts. A code opposite the name of each court indicates the manner in which parking cases are reported by the court. Qualifying footnotes in Table 11 do not repeat the information provided by the code, and thus refer only to the status of the statistics on moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, and ordinance violations. The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table as neither traffic/other violation caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1987. All other state trial courts with traffic/other violation jurisdiction are listed in the table regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "Filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

PARKING CODES:

1 = Parking data are unavailable
2 = Court does not have parking jurisdiction
3 = Only contested parking cases are included
4 = Both contested and uncontested parking cases are included
5 = Parking cases are handled administratively
6 = Uncontested parking cases are handled administratively; contested parking cases are handled by the Court

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an impact on the state's total.

(continued on next page)

TABLE 11: Reported total state trial court traffic/other violation caseload, 1987. (continued)

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Delaware--Justice of the Peace Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include most of the DWI/DUI cases.
- Hawaii--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some misdemeanor cases.
- Iowa--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some misdemeanor cases.
- Maine--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some misdemeanor and all DWI/DUI cases.
- South Carolina--Magistrate Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI and juvenile cases. (Filed data were estimated using percentages provided by the AOC).
  - --Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include misdemeanor and DWI/DUI cases.
- South Dakota--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include some misdemeanor cases.
- Texas--County-Level Courts--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include some criminal appeals cases.
- Utah--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some miscellaneous criminal cases.
- Wyoming--County Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include misdemeanor and DWI/DUI cases.

G: The following courts' data include DWI/DUI cases:
- Colorado--County Court
- District of Columbia--Superior Court
- Louisiana--District Court--This figure is estimated by the State Court Administrator's Office on the basis that 75% of criminal cases reported (290,092) are traffic cases.
- Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth (filed data)
- Virginia--District Court

I: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
- Alaska--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include some moving traffic violation cases and all ordinance violation cases.
- Arizona--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include partial data from one municipality, which only reported for three months.
- Arkansas--City Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation cases and are missing all traffic data from several courts.
  - --Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation cases, and are missing all data from several municipalities, and partial data from several others.
- Georgia--Magistrate Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include any cases from 11 counties, and partial data from 15 counties.
- Hawaii--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include reopened prior cases reported with the civil data.
- Indiana--City and Town Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include some cases reported with criminal data.
- Kansas--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include juvenile traffic cases.
- Missouri--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation and parking cases heard by Municipal judges.
- New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County--Total traffic/other violation disposed data do not include ordinance violations and some miscellaneous traffic cases.
- Texas--Justice of the Peace Court--Total traffic/other violation data do not include some cases due to a reporting rate of 79%.
  - --Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation data do not include some cases due to a reporting rate of 79%.
- Utah--Justice of the Peace Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include some moving traffic cases.
- Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include cases from District 1 (Milwaukee County).

N: The following courts' data do not include ordinance violation cases:
- Delaware--Alderman's Court
- Kentucky--District Court
- Maryland--District Court (filed data)
- Nebraska--County Court
- New Mexico--Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County (filed data)
- New York--District and City Court
- North Carolina--District Court
- Ohio--County Court--Municipal Court
- Oklahoma--District Court
- Pennsylvania--District Justice Court--Pittsburgh City Magistrates
- Vermont--District Court

O: The following courts' data are incomplete and overinclusive:
- California--Justice Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include some ordinance violation cases.
  - --Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include some ordinance violation cases.

(continued on next page)

Connecticut--Superior Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Delaware--Municipal Court of Wilmington--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include most DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Illinois--Circuit Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases from Cook County and parking cases from anywhere but Cook County.

Louisiana--City and Parish Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Maine--Superior Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI and some criminal appeals cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Maryland--District Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include some felony/misdemeanor cases, but do not include ordinance violation, some moving traffic, and miscellaneous traffic cases.

Michigan--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Minnesota--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Pennsylvania--Philadelphia Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include some misdemeanors but do not include some ordinance violation cases.

Puerto Rico--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

Wisconsin--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but represent only 155 of the 196 municipal courts.

Wyoming--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include misdemeanors, but are missing data for a six-month period from two municipalities.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:

Georgia--Juvenile Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data represent 101 of 159 counties, a reporting rate of 64% which accounts for 50% of the caseload.

Idaho--District Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include ordinance violation and parking cases.

New York--Criminal Court of the City of New York--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data do not include moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, and some ordinance violation cases.

X: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete and overinclusive:

Georgia--Probate Court--Total traffic/other violation filed and disposed data include DWI/DUI cases but represent only 51 of 95 counties.

North Dakota--Municipal Court--Total traffic/other violation disposed data include DWI/DUI cases, but do not include ordinance violation cases.

TABLE 12: Reported Total State Trial Court Juvenile Caseload, 1987

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
ALABAMA--STATE TOTAL			57,546 *	50,520 *	88	5,152
Circuit Court	G	A	24,759 C	19,741 C	80	2,217
District Court	L	A	32,787	30,779	94	2,935
ALASKA--STATE TOTAL			1,884	1,536	82	1,095
Superior Court	G	C	1,776	1,472	83	1,033
District Court	L	I	108	64	59	63
ARIZONA--Superior Court	G	C	10,578	10,920	103	1,151
ARKANSAS--County Court	L	B	8,466 i	8,251 i	97	1,306
CALIFORNIA--Superior Court	G	C	89,917	83,528	93	1,231
COLORADO--District, Denver Juvenile and Probate Court	G	A	14,832	13,070	88	1,699
CONNECTICUT--Superior Court	G	F	10,948 i	10,672 i	97	1,446
DELAWARE--Family Court	L	C	6,625 V	6,259 V	94	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA--Superior Court	G	B	12,346	12,336	100	9,078
FLORIDA--Circuit Court	G	A	94,177	63,710	68	3,483
GEORGIA--Juvenile Court	G	A	23,208 V	14,671 V	63	
HAWAII--Circuit Court	G	F	16,965	16,736	99	5,932
IDAHO--District Court	G	C	6,552	6,455	99	2,141
ILLINOIS--Circuit Court	G	C	31,078	25,183	81	1,024

(continued on next page)

TABLE 12: Reported total state trial court juvenile caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispo-sitions as a per-centage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
INDIANA--STATE TOTAL			29,963	29,892	100	2,038
Superior and Circuit Court	G	C	28,806	28,773	100	1,960
Probate Court	L	C	1,157	1,119	97	79
IOWA--District Court	G	A	6,042	N/A		825
KANSAS--District Court	G	A	13,421 C	12,815 C	95	2,065
KENTUCKY--District Court	L	A	36,758 C	33,492 C	91	3,691
LOUISIANA--STATE TOTAL			49,564 *			3,769
District Court	G	C	12,908	N/A		982
Family and Juvenile Court	G	C	26,841 C	N/A		2,041
City and Parish Court	L	C	9,815	9,077	92	746
MAINE--District Court	L	C	4,224	3,379	80	1,394
MARYLAND--STATE TOTAL			36,329	35,004	96	3,229
Circuit Court	G	C	32,382	31,494	97	2,878
District Court	L	C	3,947	3,510	89	351
MASSACHUSETTS--Trial Court of the Commonwealth	G	C	46,302	21,087 X		3,466
MICHIGAN--Probate Court	L	C	24,623 0	20,917 0	85	1,001
MINNESOTA--District Court	G	C	57,782	57,177	99	5,201
MISSOURI--Circuit Court	G	C	16,766	19,037 C		1,281
MONTANA--District Court	G	C	1,419	1,202	85	634
NEBRASKA--STATE TOTAL			5,955			1,404
County Court	L	C	3,686	3,639	99	869
Separate Juvenile Court	L	C	2,269	N/A		535
NEVADA--District Court	G	C	N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 12: Reported total state trial court juvenile caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
NEW HAMPSHIRE--District Court	L	C	7,331	N/A		2,756
NEW JERSEY--Superior Court	G	C	115,245 C	112,893 C	98	6,294
NEW MEXICO--District Court	G	C	7,737	7,783	101	1,735
NEW YORK--Family Court	L	C	48,494	50,225	104	1,112
NORTH CAROLINA--District Court	L	C	22,537	24,749	110	1,385
NORTH DAKOTA--District Court	G	C	8,320	9,021 C		4,449
OHIO--Court of Common Pleas	G	E	115,404	114,946	100	4,069
OKLAHOMA--District Court	G	G	N/A	N/A		
OREGON--STATE TOTAL						
Circuit Court	G	C	19,310	N/A		2,815
County Court	L	C	N/A	N/A		
PENNSYLVANIA--Court of Common Pleas	G	F	49,202	46,426	94	1,726
PUERTO RICO--Superior Court	G	C	6,553 C	6,401 C	98	
RHODE ISLAND--Family Court	L	F	6,759 C	6,498 C	96	2,952
SOUTH CAROLINA--STATE TOTAL						
Family Court	L	C	12,626 C	12,659 C	100	1,342
Magistrate Court	L	I	N/A	N/A		
SOUTH DAKOTA--Circuit Court	G	B	3,198	N/A		1,632
TENNESSEE--STATE TOTAL						
General Sessions Court	L	B	N/A	N/A		
Juvenile Court	L	B	N/A	N/A		

(continued on next page)

TABLE 12: Reported total state trial court juvenile caseload, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of filing	Total juvenile filings and qualifying footnotes	Total juvenile dispositions and qualifying footnotes	Dispositions as a percentage of filings	Filings per 100,000 juvenile population
TEXAS--STATE TOTAL			14,751 *	16,126 *	109	
District Court	G	C	12,173 i	13,592 i	112	244
County-Level Court	L	C	2,578 V	2,534 V	98	
UTAH--Juvenile Court	L	C	39,145	39,653	101	6,223
VERMONT--District Court	G	C	1,816	1,750	96	1,288
VIRGINIA--District Court	L	A	84,528	79,526	94	5,794
WASHINGTON--Superior Court	G	A	22,672	19,852	88	1,939
WEST VIRGINIA--Circuit Court	G	C	6,397	6,469	101	1,306
WISCONSIN--Circuit Court	G	C	31,063 i	30,949 i	100	2,448
WYOMING--District Court	G	C	1,379	N/A		932

NOTE: The trial courts of Mississippi are not included in this table as neither juvenile caseload nor court jurisdiction information is available for 1987. All other state trial courts with juvenile jurisdiction are listed in the table regardless of whether caseload data are available. Blank spaces in the table indicate that a particular calculation, such as the total state caseload, is not appropriate. State total "filings per 100,000 population" may not equal the sum of the filing rates for the individual courts due to rounding.

N/A = Data are not available.

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General Jurisdiction
L = Limited Jurisdiction

POINT OF FILING CODES:

M = Missing Data
I = Data element is inapplicable
A = Filing of complaint
B = At initial hearing (intake)
C = Filing of petition
E = Issuance of warrant
F = At referral
G = Varies

(continued on next page)

QUALIFYING FOOTNOTES:

The absence of a qualifying footnote indicates that data are complete.

*See the qualifying footnote for each court within the state. Each footnote has an impact on the state's total.

C: The following courts' data are overinclusive:
- Alabama--Circuit Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include URESA cases.
- Kansas--District Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include some traffic/other violation data.
- Kentucky--District Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include paternity/bastardy cases.
- Louisiana--Family and Juvenile Court--Total juvenile filed data include domestic relations and mental health cases.
- Missouri--Circuit Court--Total juvenile disposed data include adoption and termination of parental rights cases.
- New Jersey--Superior Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include termination of parental rights and some paternity/bastardy cases.
- North Dakota--District Court--Total juvenile disposed data include traffic cases.
- Puerto Rico--Superior Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include transfers and reopened cases.
- Rhode Island--Family Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include adoption cases.
- South Carolina--Family Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include traffic/other violation cases.

I: The following courts' data are at least 75% complete:
- Arkansas--County Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include cases from several counties. Effective 1/20/87 juvenile jurisdiction transferred to the Circuit and Chancery Courts.
- Connecticut--Superior Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include child-victim petitions.
- Texas--District Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include child-victim petitions.
- Wisconsin--Circuit Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include cases from Milwaukee County.

O: The following court's data are incomplete and overinclusive:
- Michigan--Probate Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data include traffic/other violation cases, but do not include status petitions.

V: The following courts' data are less than 75% complete:
- Delaware--Family Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include status petitions and child-victim petitions.
- Georgia--Juvenile Court--Total juvenile filed and disposed data represent 101 of 159 counties, a reporting rate of 64% which accounts for approximately 50% of the caseload.
- Texas--County-Level Courts--Total juvenile filed and disposed data do not include child-victim petitions.

X: The following court's data are less than 75% complete and overinclusive:
- Massachusetts--Trial Court of the Commonwealth--Total juvenile disposed data include some traffic/other violation cases, but do not include any cases from the Juvenile Court Department and appeals from the District Court Department.

Part III

1987 State Court Structure Charts

1987 State Court Structure Charts

Court Structure Charts: An Explanatory Note

The court structure charts summarize the key features of each state's court organization into a one-page diagram. The format has two objectives: (1) to be comprehensive, indicating all court systems in the state and their interrelationships; and (2) to describe the jurisdiction of court systems using a comparable set of terminology and symbols. The court structure charts employ the common terminology developed by the NCSC's Court Statistics Project (CSP) for reporting caseload statistics.

The first chart is a prototype. It represents a state court organization in which there is one of each of the four court system levels recognized by the Court Statistics Project: courts of last resort, intermediate appellate courts, general jurisdiction trial courts, and limited jurisdiction trial courts. Routes of appeal from one court to another are indicated by lines, with an arrow showing which court receives the appeal or petition.

The charts also provide basic descriptive information, such as the number of authorized justices, judges, and magistrates (or other judicial officers). Each court system's subject matter jurisdiction is indicated using the Court Statistics Project casetypes. Information is also provided on the use of districts, circuits, or divisions in organizing the courts within the system and the number of courts, where this coincides with a basic government unit.

The casetypes, which define a court system's subject matter jurisdiction, require the most explanation. This is done separately for appellate and trial court systems.

Appellate Courts

The rectangle representing each appellate court contains information on the number of authorized justices; the number of geographic divisions, if any, that are maintained; whether court decisions are made en banc, in panels, or both; and the Court Statistics Project casetypes that are heard by the court. The casetypes are shown separately for mandatory and discretionary cases. The casetypes themselves are defined in other Court Statistics Project publications, especially *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting* and *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.

An appellate court can have both mandatory *and* discretionary jurisdiction over the same Court Statistics Project casetype. This arises, in part, because the Court Statistics Project casetypes are defined broadly in order to be applicable to every state's courts. There are, for example, only two appellate Court Statistics Project casetypes for criminal appeals: capital and noncapital. A court may have mandatory jurisdiction over felony cases but discretionary jurisdiction over misdemeanors. The listing of casetypes would include "criminal" for both mandatory and discretionary jurisdiction. The duplication of a casetype under both headings can also occur if appeals from one lower court for that casetype are mandatory, while appeals from another lower court are discretionary. Also, statutory provisions or court rules in some states automatically convert a mandatory appeal into a discretionary petition—for example, when an appeal is not filed within a specified time limit. A more comprehensive description of each appellate court's subject matter jurisdiction can be found in the *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting*.

Trial Courts

The rectangle representing each trial court also lists the applicable Court Statistics Project casetypes. These include civil, criminal, traffic/other violation, and juvenile. Where a casetype is simply listed, it means that the court system shares jurisdiction over it with other courts. The presence of exclusive jurisdiction is always explicitly stated. The absence of a casetype from a list means that the court does not have that subject matter jurisdiction. The dollar amount jurisdiction is shown where there is an upper or a lower limit to the cases that can be filed in a court. A dollar limit is not listed if a court does not have a minimum or maximum dollar jurisdiction for general civil cases. In criminal cases, jurisdiction is distinguished between "triable felony," where the court can try a felony case to verdict and sentencing, and "limited felony," which applies to those limited jurisdiction courts that can conduct preliminary hearings that bind a defendant over for trial in a higher court.

Trial courts can have what is termed incidental appellate jurisdiction. The presence of such jurisdiction over the decisions of other courts is noted in the list of casetypes as either "civil appeals," "criminal appeals," or "administrative agency" appeals. A trial court that hears appeals directly from an administrative agency has an "A" in the upper right corner of the rectangle.

For each trial court, the chart states the authorized number of judges and whether the court can empanel a jury. The rectangle representing the court also indicates the number of districts, divisions, or circuits into which the court system is divided. These subdivisions are stated using the court system's own terminology. The descriptions, therefore, are not standardized across states or court systems.

Trial courts are differentiated into those that are totally funded from local sources and those that receive some form of state funds. Locally funded court systems are drawn with broken lines. A solid line indicates some or all of the funding is derived from state funds.

Symbols and Abbreviations

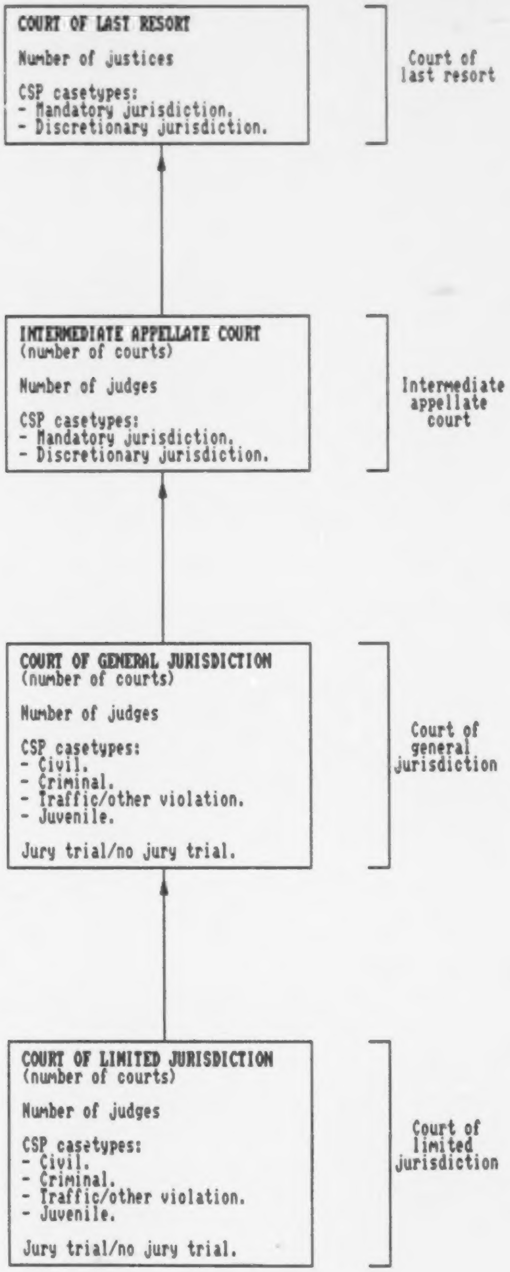
An "A" in the upper right corner of a rectangle, representing either an appellate or a trial court, indicates that the court receives appeals directly from the decisions of an administrative agency. Where "administrative agency" appeals are listed as a casetype, it indicates that the court hears appeals from decisions of another court on an administrative agency's actions. It is possible for a court to both have an "A" designation and to have "administrative agency appeals" listed as a casetype. Such a court hears appeals directly from an administrative agency ("A") and has appellate jurisdiction over the decisions of a lower court that has already reviewed the decision of the administrative agency (and is thus listed as a casetype).

The number of justices or judges is sometimes stated as "FTE." This represents "full time equivalent" authorized judicial positions. "DWI/DUI" stands for "driving while intoxicated/driving under the influence." The abbreviation "SC" stands for "small claims." The dollar amount jurisdiction for civil cases is indicated in parenthesis with a dollar sign. Where the small claims dollar amount jurisdiction is different, it is also noted.

Conclusion

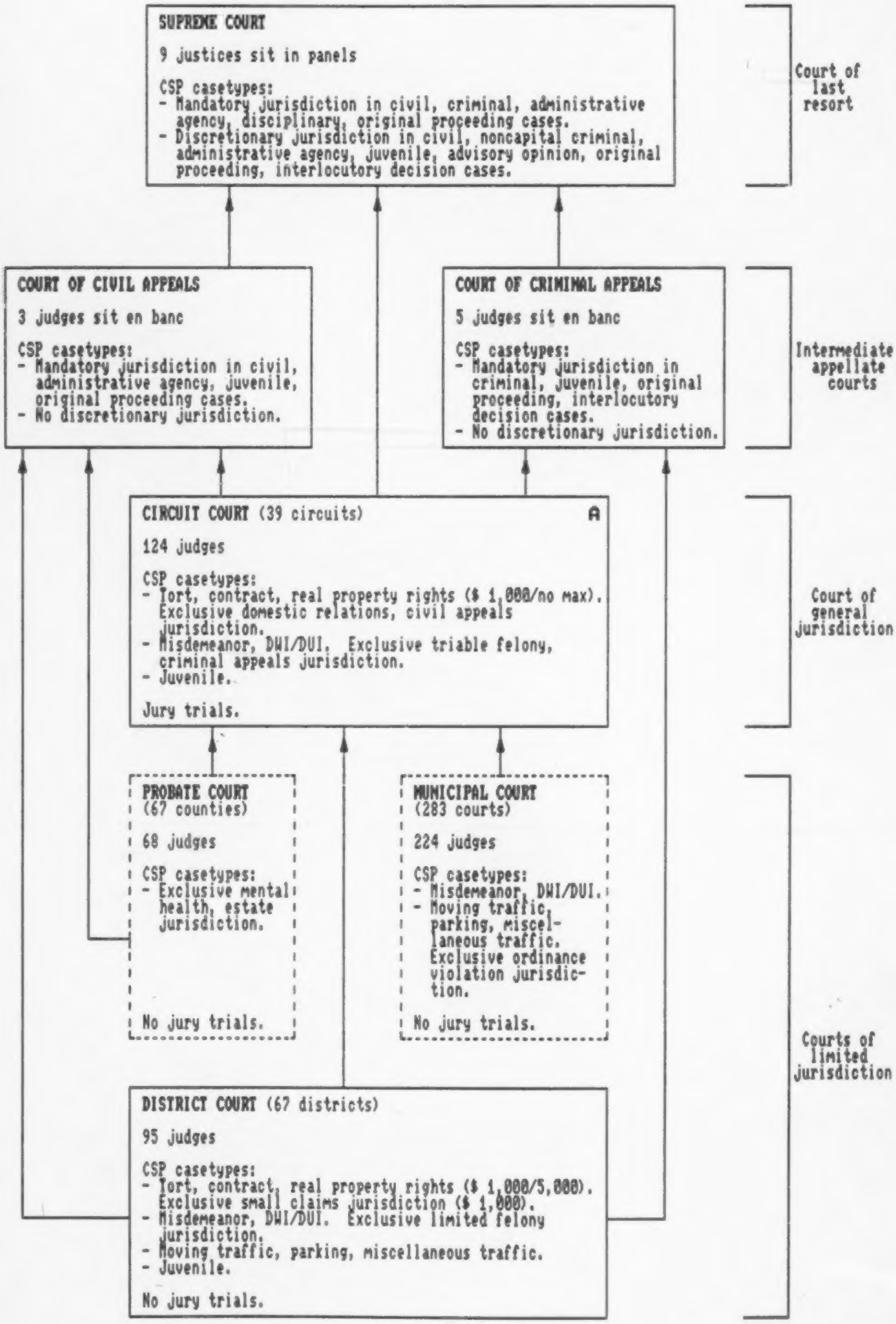
The court structure charts are convenient summaries. They do not substitute for the detailed descriptive material contained in *State Court Organization 1987*, another Court Statistics Project publication. Moreover, they are based on the Court Statistics Project's terminology and categories. This means that a state may have established courts that are not included in these charts. Some states have courts of special jurisdiction to receive complaints on matters that are more typically directed to administrative boards and agencies. Since these courts receive cases that do not fall within the Court Statistics Project casetypes, they are not included in the charts. The existence of such courts, however, is recognized in a footnote to the state's court structure chart.

STATE COURT STRUCTURE PROTOTYPE, 1987


COURT OF LAST RESORT
Number of justices
CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction.
Court of last resort
INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE COURT
(number of courts)
Number of judges
CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction.
Intermediate appellate court
COURT OF GENERAL JURISDICTION
(number of courts)
Number of judges
CSP casetypes:
- Civil.
- Criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.
Jury trial/no jury trial.
Court of general jurisdiction
COURT OF LIMITED JURISDICTION
(number of courts)
Number of judges
CSP casetypes:
- Civil.
- Criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.
Jury trial/no jury trial.
Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

ALABAMA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

5 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate courts

CIRCUIT COURT (39 circuits) A

124 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1,000/no max). Exclusive domestic relations, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT
(67 counties)

68 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive mental health, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(283 courts)

224 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (67 districts)

95 judges

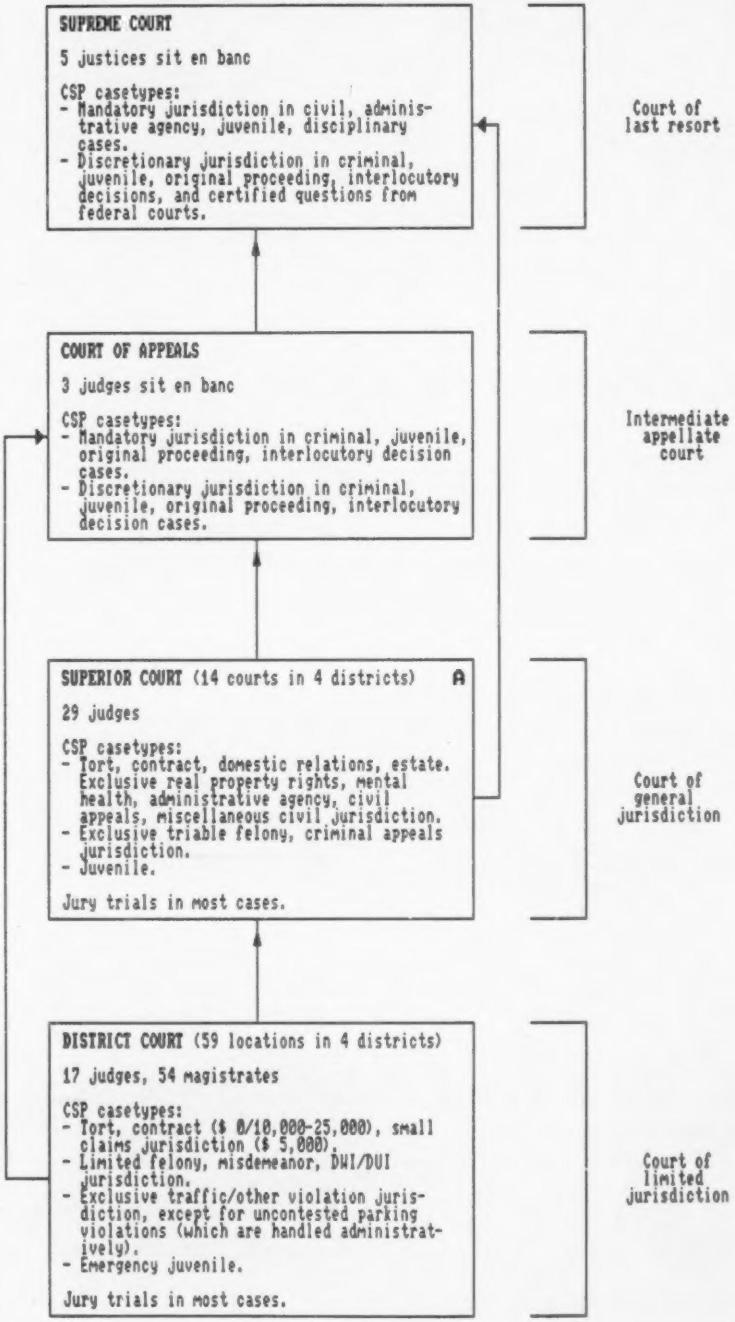
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1,000/5,000). Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

ALASKA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decisions, and certified questions from federal courts.

COURT OF APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (14 courts in 4 districts) A

29 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, domestic relations, estate. Exclusive real property rights, mental health, administrative agency, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

DISTRICT COURT (59 locations in 4 districts)

17 judges, 54 magistrates

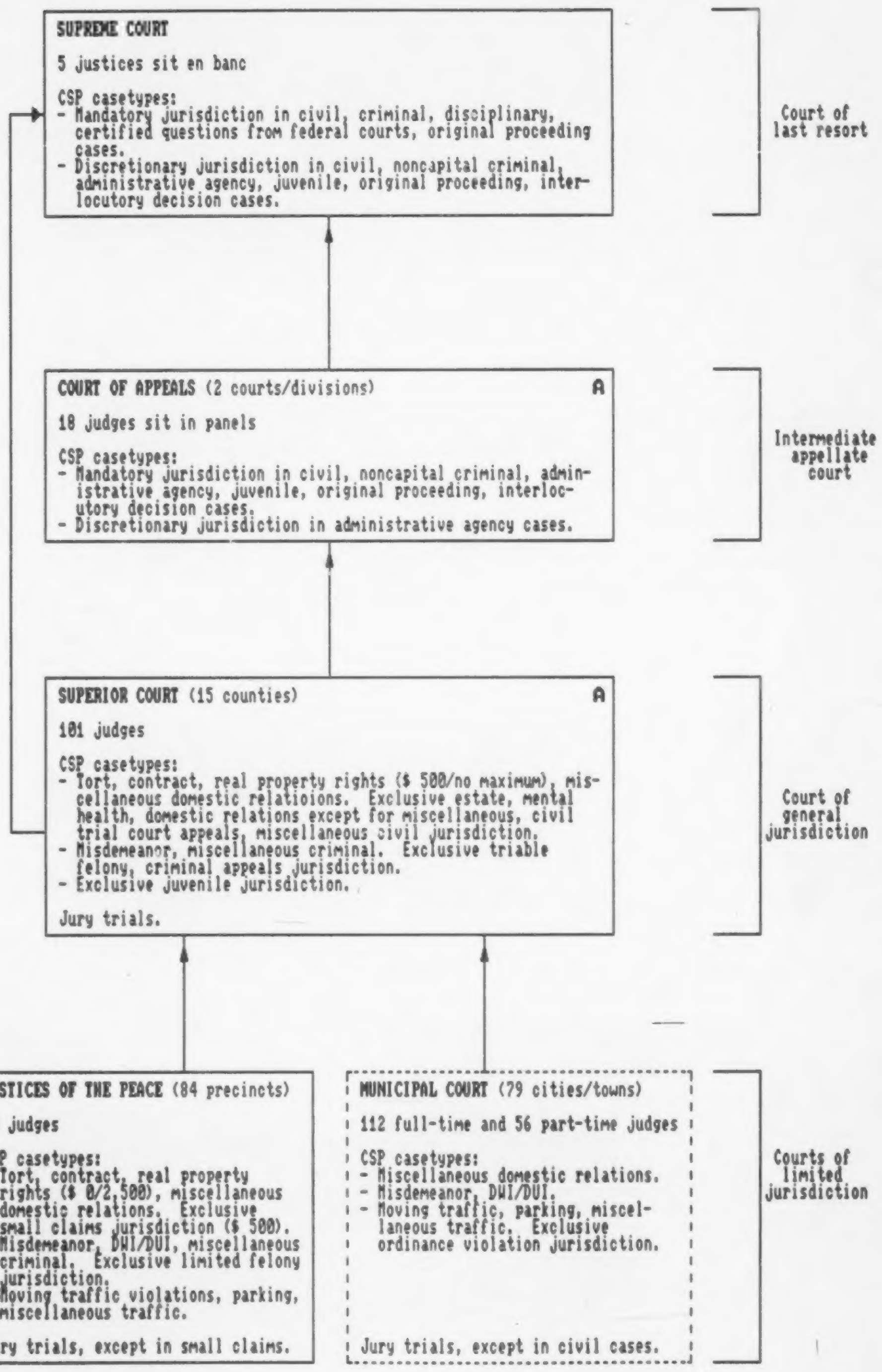
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/10,000-25,000), small claims jurisdiction ($ 5,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for uncontested parking violations (which are handled administratively).
- Emergency juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

ARIZONA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (2 courts/divisions) A

18 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (15 counties) A

101 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 500/no maximum), miscellaneous domestic relatioions. Exclusive estate, mental health, domestic relations except for miscellaneous, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE (84 precincts)

84 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), miscellaneous domestic relations. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic violations, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (79 cities/towns)

112 full-time and 56 part-time judges

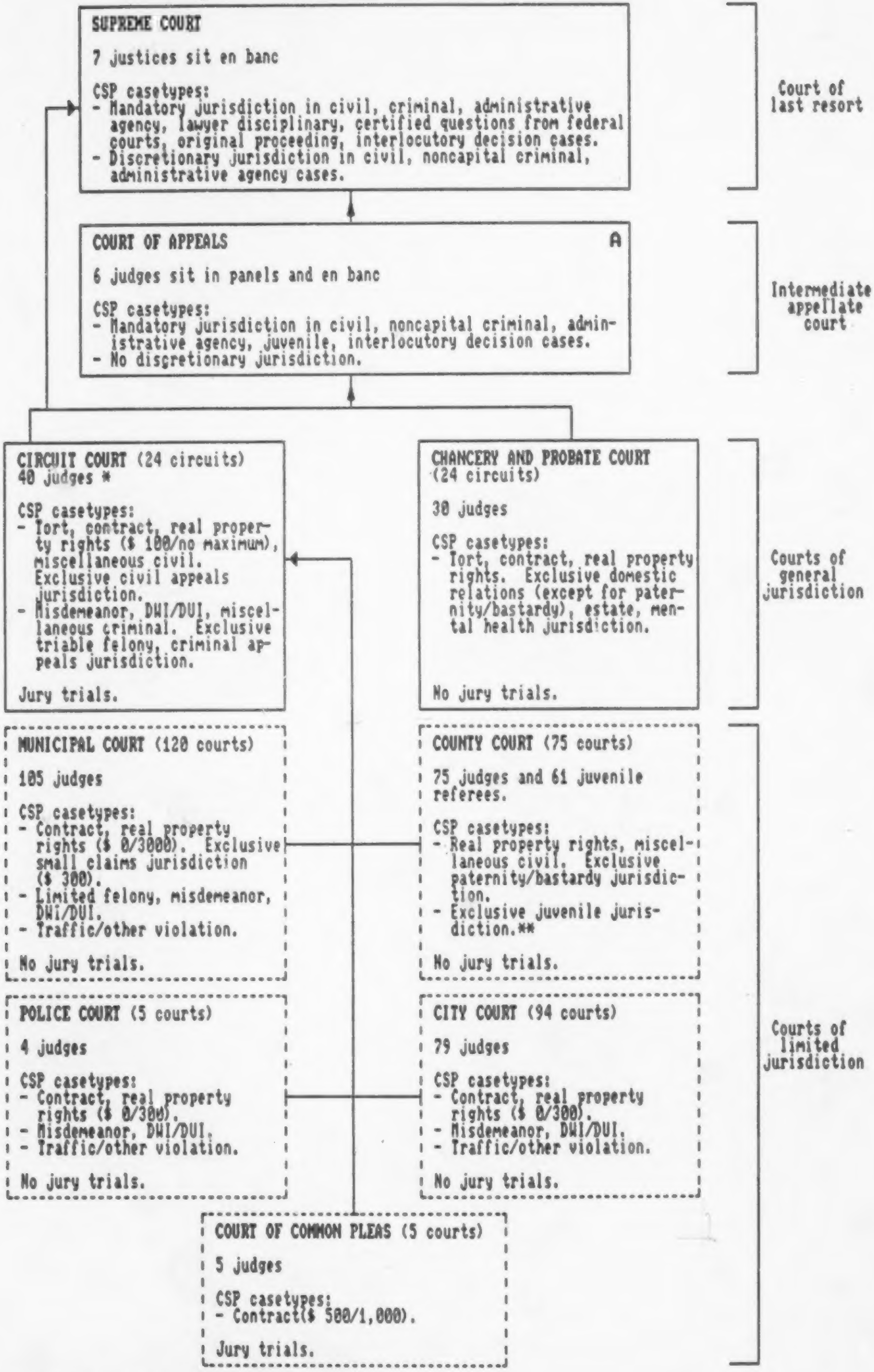
CSP casetypes:
- Miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in civil cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

ARKANSAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (24 circuits)
40 judges *

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 100/no maximum), miscellaneous civil. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY AND PROBATE COURT (24 circuits)

30 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations (except for paternity/bastardy), estate, mental health jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (120 courts)

105 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights ($ 0/3000). Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 300).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (75 courts)

75 judges and 61 juvenile referees.

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive paternity/bastardy jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.**

No jury trials.

POLICE COURT (5 courts)

4 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights ($ 0/300).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

CITY COURT (94 courts)

79 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Contract, real property rights ($ 0/300).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (5 courts)

5 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Contract($ 500/1,000).

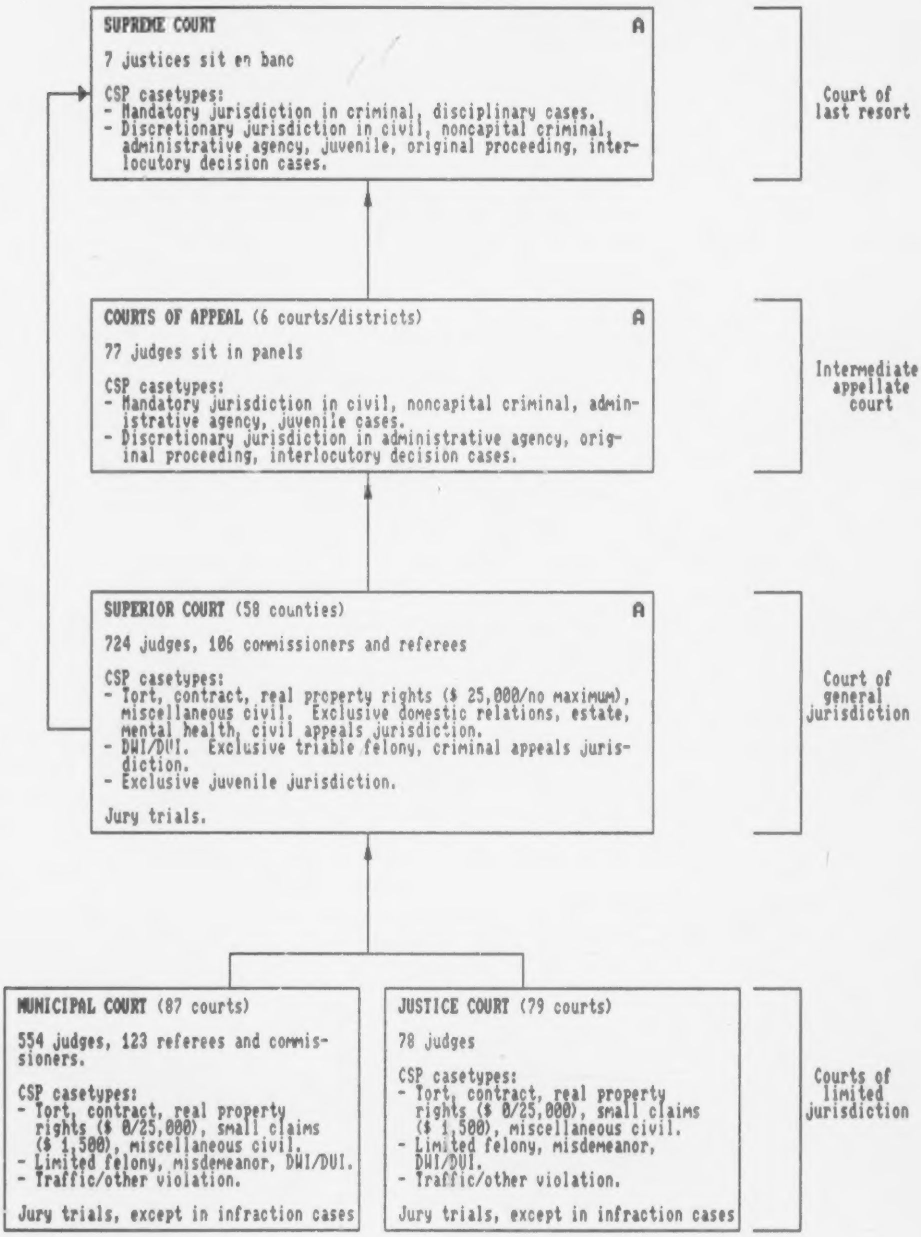
Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* Eight judges also serve the Chancery and Probate Court.
** Effective Jan. 20, 1987, juvenile jurisdiction was transferred to the Circuit Court and the Chancery and Probate Court.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

CALIFORNIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURTS OF APPEAL (6 courts/districts) A

77 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (58 counties) A

724 judges, 106 commissioners and referees

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 25,000/no maximum), miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (87 courts)

554 judges, 123 referees and commissioners.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/25,000), small claims ($ 1,500), miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except in infraction cases

JUSTICE COURT (79 courts)

78 judges

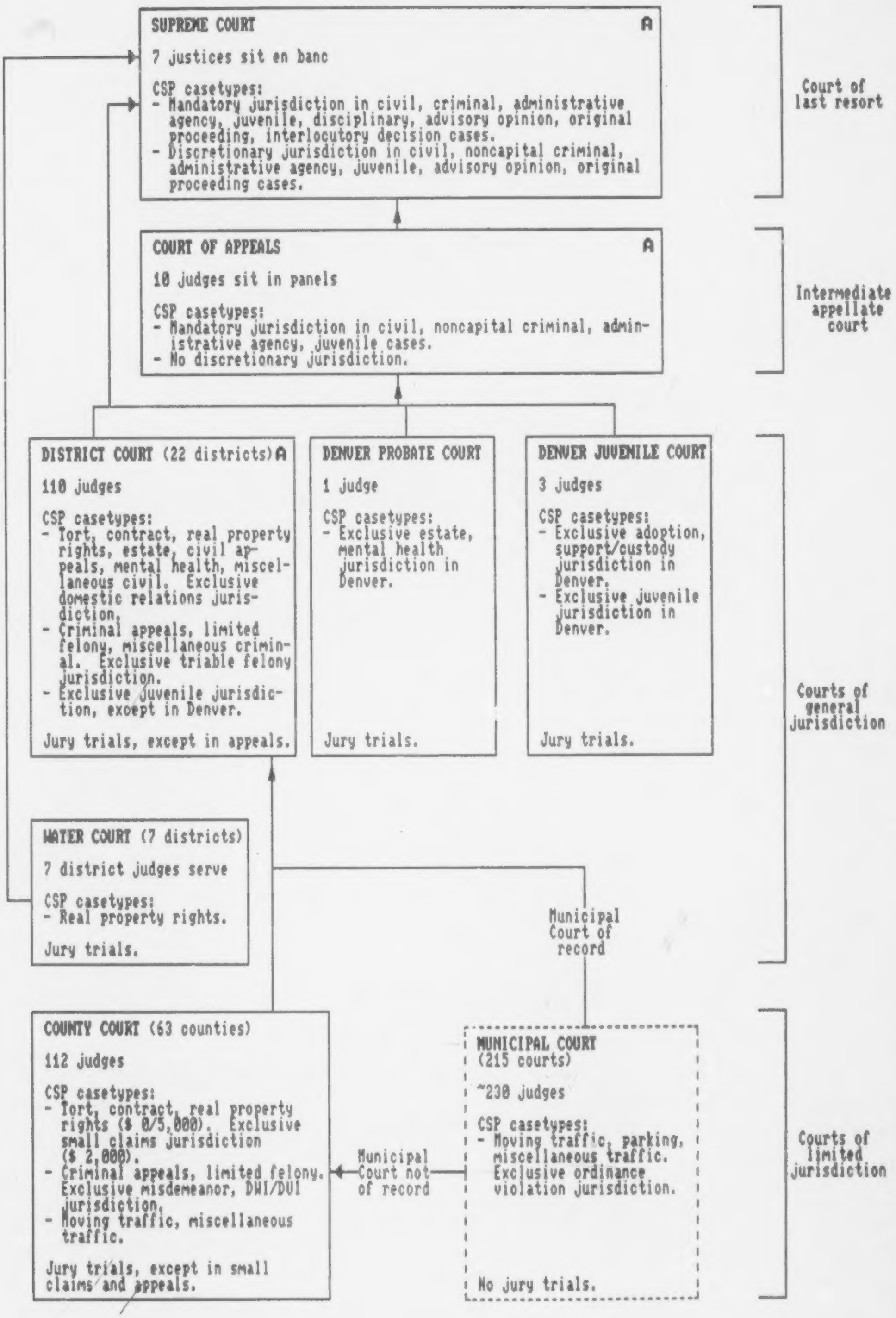
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/25,000), small claims ($ 1,500), miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except in infraction cases

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

COLORADO COURT STRUCTURE, 1987


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
Municipal Court of record
Municipal Court not of record
A

SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF APPEALS A

10 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURT (22 districts) A

110 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate, civil appeals, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Criminal appeals, limited felony, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction, except in Denver.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

DENVER PROBATE COURT

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive estate, mental health jurisdiction in Denver.

Jury trials.

DENVER JUVENILE COURT

3 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive adoption, support/custody jurisdiction in Denver.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction in Denver.

Jury trials.

WATER COURT (7 districts)

7 district judges serve

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (63 counties)

112 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000). Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Criminal appeals, limited felony. Exclusive misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims and appeals.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(215 courts)

~230 judges

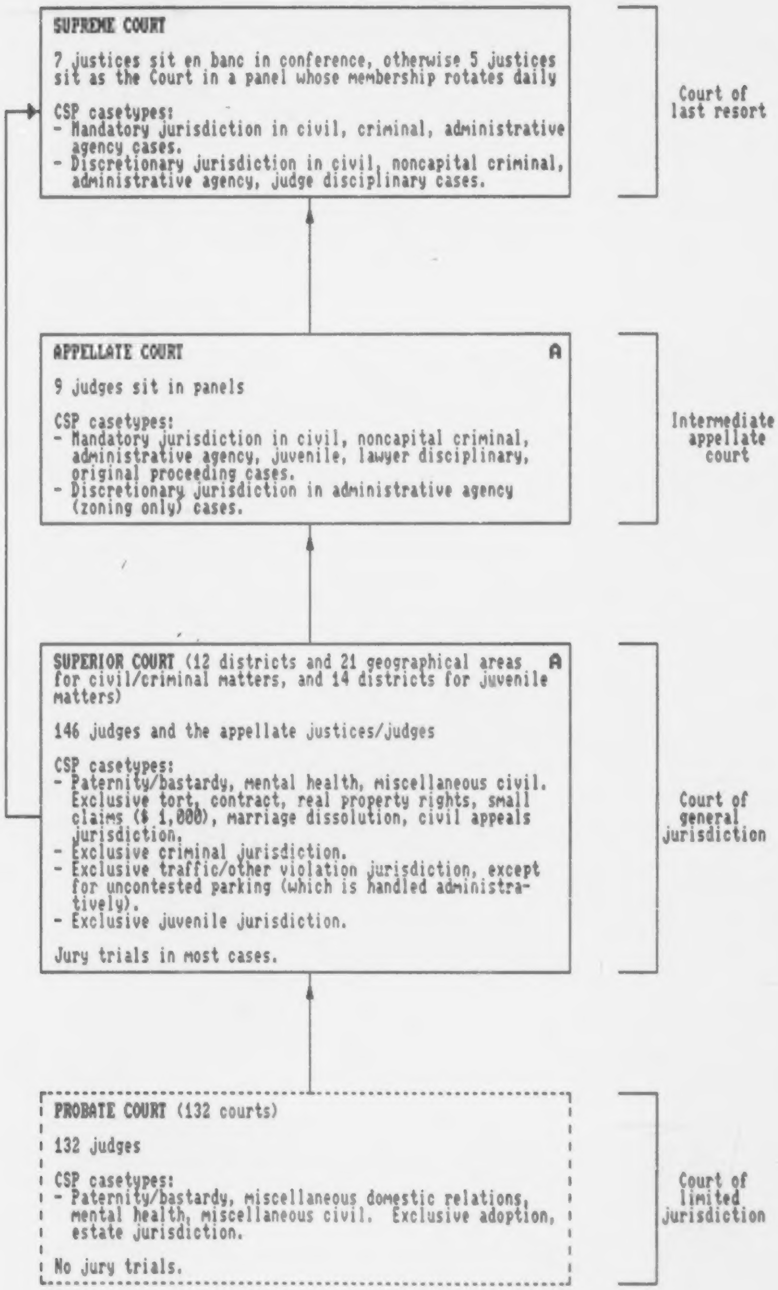
CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

The Denver Superior Court was abolished 11/14/86.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

CONNECTICUT COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc in conference, otherwise 5 justices sit as the Court in a panel whose membership rotates daily

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, judge disciplinary cases.

Court of last resort

APPELLATE COURT A

9 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency (zoning only) cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (12 districts and 21 geographical areas for civil/criminal matters, and 14 districts for juvenile matters) A

146 judges and the appellate justices/judges

CSP casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive tort, contract, real property rights, small claims ($ 1,000), marriage dissolution, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for uncontested parking (which is handled administratively).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT (132 courts)

132 judges

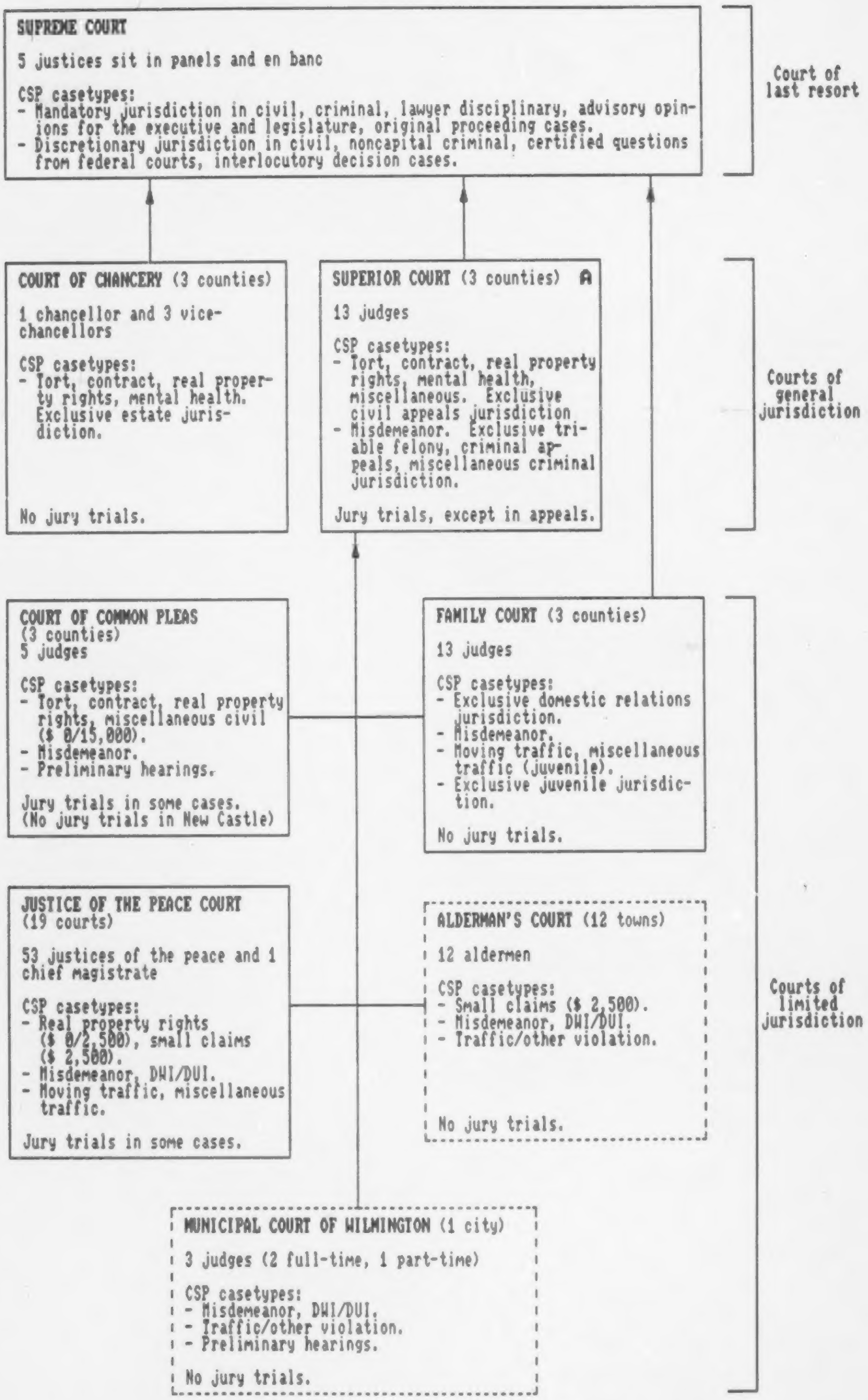
CSP casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

DELAWARE COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinions for the executive and legislature, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, certified questions from federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF CHANCERY (3 counties)

1 chancellor and 3 vice-chancellors

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, mental health. Exclusive estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

SUPERIOR COURT (3 counties) A

13 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, mental health, miscellaneous. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

Courts of general jurisdiction

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
(3 counties)
5 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 0/15,000).
- Misdemeanor.
- Preliminary hearings.

Jury trials in some cases.
(No jury trials in New Castle)

FAMILY COURT (3 counties)

13 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic (juvenile).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(19 courts)

53 justices of the peace and 1 chief magistrate

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials in some cases.

ALDERMAN'S COURT (12 towns)

12 aldermen

CSP casetypes:
- Small claims ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT OF WILMINGTON (1 city)

3 judges (2 full-time, 1 part-time)

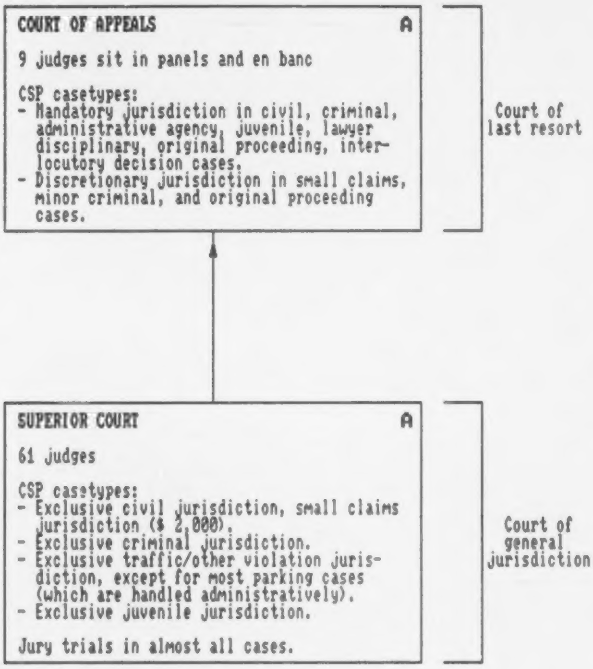
CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Preliminary hearings.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



COURT OF APPEALS A

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in small claims, minor criminal, and original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT A

61 judges

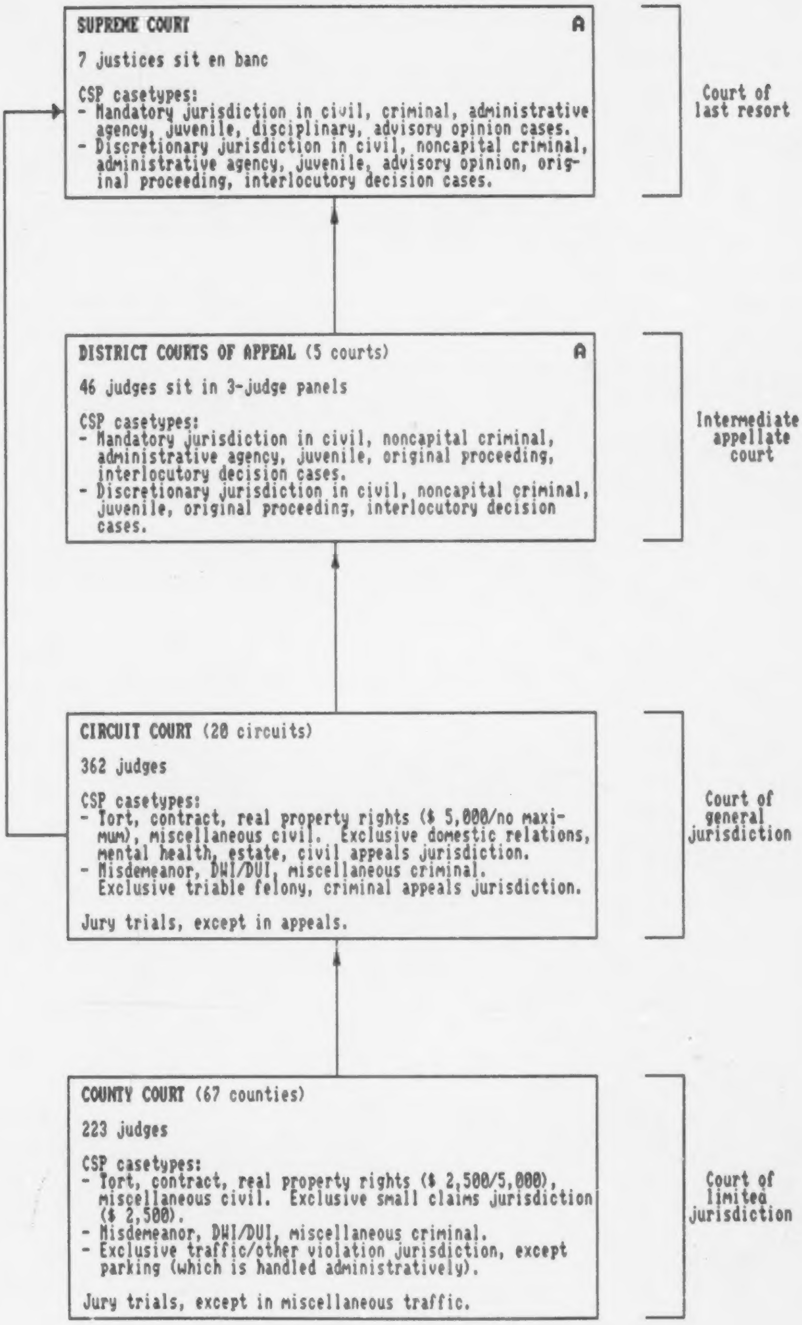
CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction, small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for most parking cases (which are handled administratively).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in almost all cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

FLORIDA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT **A**

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURTS OF APPEAL (5 courts) **A**

46 judges sit in 3-judge panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (20 circuits)

362 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 5,000/no maximum), miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

COUNTY COURT (67 counties)

223 judges

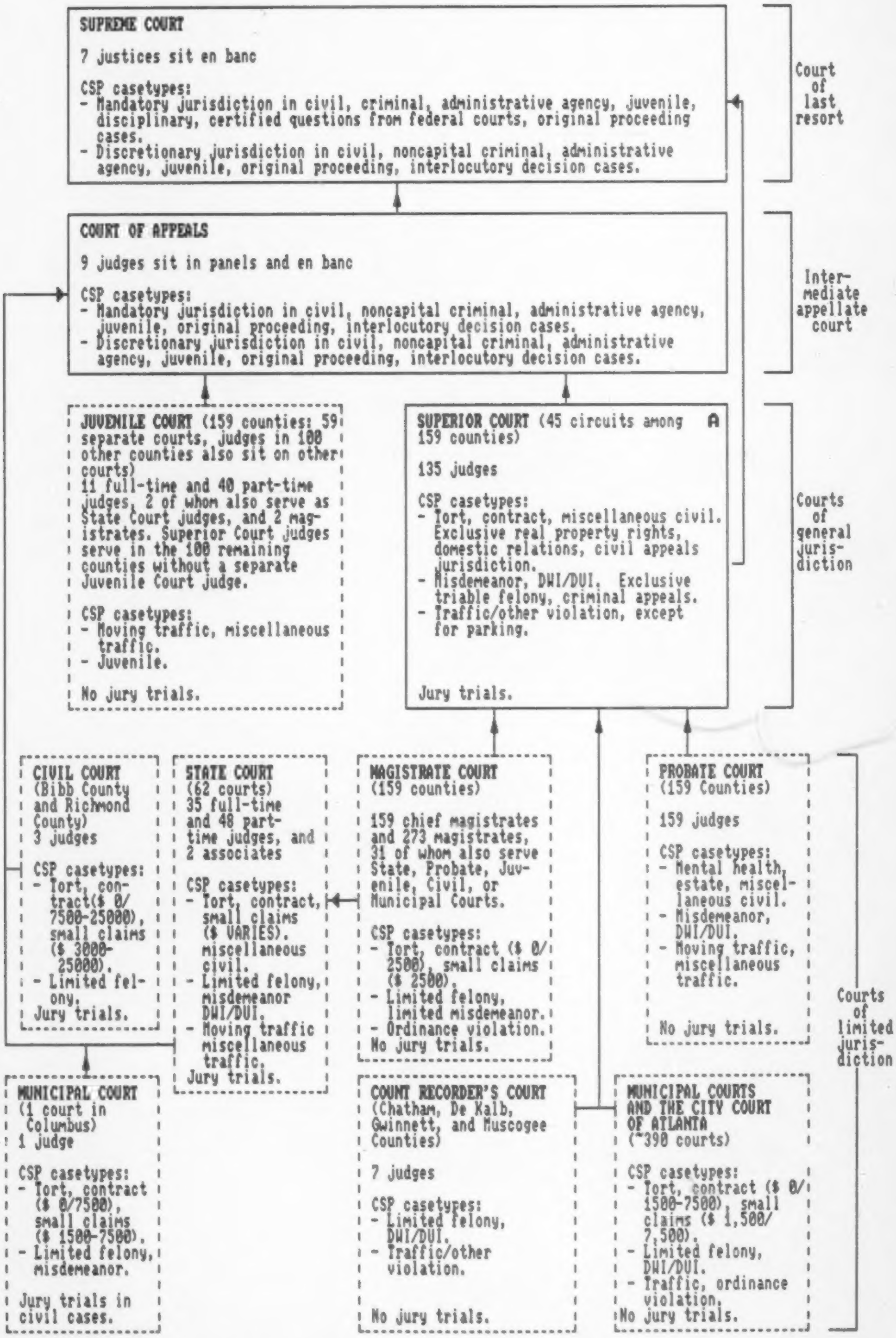
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 2,500/5,000), miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except parking (which is handled administratively).

Jury trials, except in miscellaneous traffic.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

GEORGIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

JUVENILE COURT (159 counties: 59 separate courts, judges in 100 other counties also sit on other courts)
11 full-time and 40 part-time judges, 2 of whom also serve as State Court judges, and 2 magistrates. Superior Court judges serve in the 100 remaining counties without a separate Juvenile Court judge.

CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

SUPERIOR COURT (45 circuits among 159 counties) A

135 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation, except for parking.

Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

CIVIL COURT
(Bibb County and Richmond County)
3 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract($ 0/7500-25000), small claims ($ 3000-25000).
- Limited felony.

Jury trials.

STATE COURT
(62 courts)
35 full-time and 48 part-time judges, and 2 associates

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, small claims ($ VARIES). miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

MAGISTRATE COURT
(159 counties)

159 chief magistrates and 273 magistrates, 31 of whom also serve State, Probate, Juvenile, Civil, or Municipal Courts.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/2500), small claims ($ 2500).
- Limited felony, limited misdemeanor.
- Ordinance violation.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
(159 Counties)

159 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mental health, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(1 court in Columbus)
1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/7500), small claims ($ 1500-7500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.

Jury trials in civil cases.

COUNT RECORDER'S COURT
(Chatham, De Kalb, Gwinnett, and Muscogee Counties)

7 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURTS AND THE CITY COURT OF ATLANTA
(~390 courts)

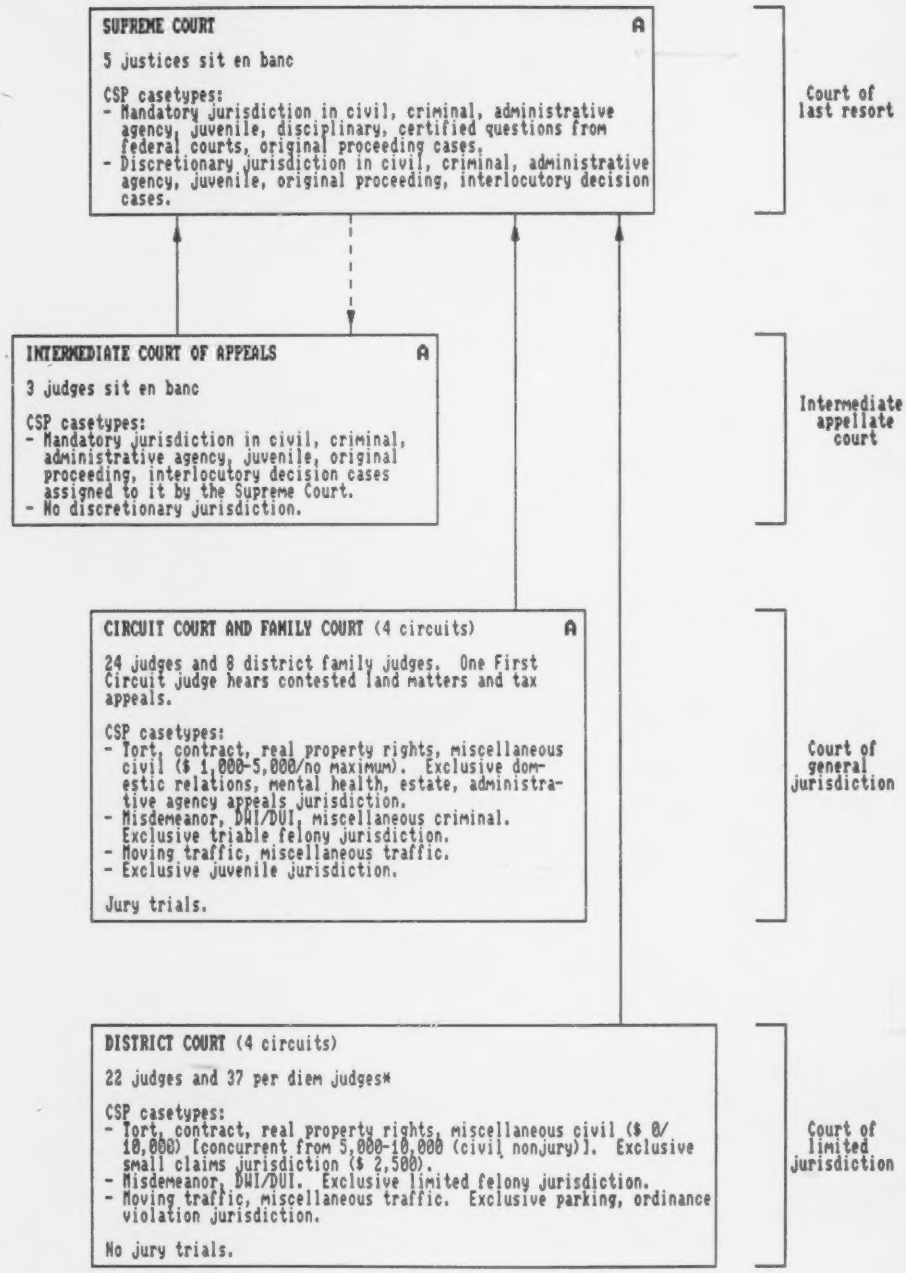
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/1500-7500), small claims ($ 1,500/7,500).
- Limited felony, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic, ordinance violation.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

HAWAII COURT STRUCTURE, 1987


A
A
A
Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Court of limited jurisdiction

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

INTERMEDIATE COURT OF APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

CIRCUIT COURT AND FAMILY COURT (4 circuits)

24 judges and 8 district family judges. One First Circuit judge hears contested land matters and tax appeals.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 1,000-5,000/no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (4 circuits)

22 judges and 37 per diem judges*

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 0/10,000) [concurrent from 5,000-10,000 (civil nonjury)]. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive parking, ordinance violation jurisdiction.

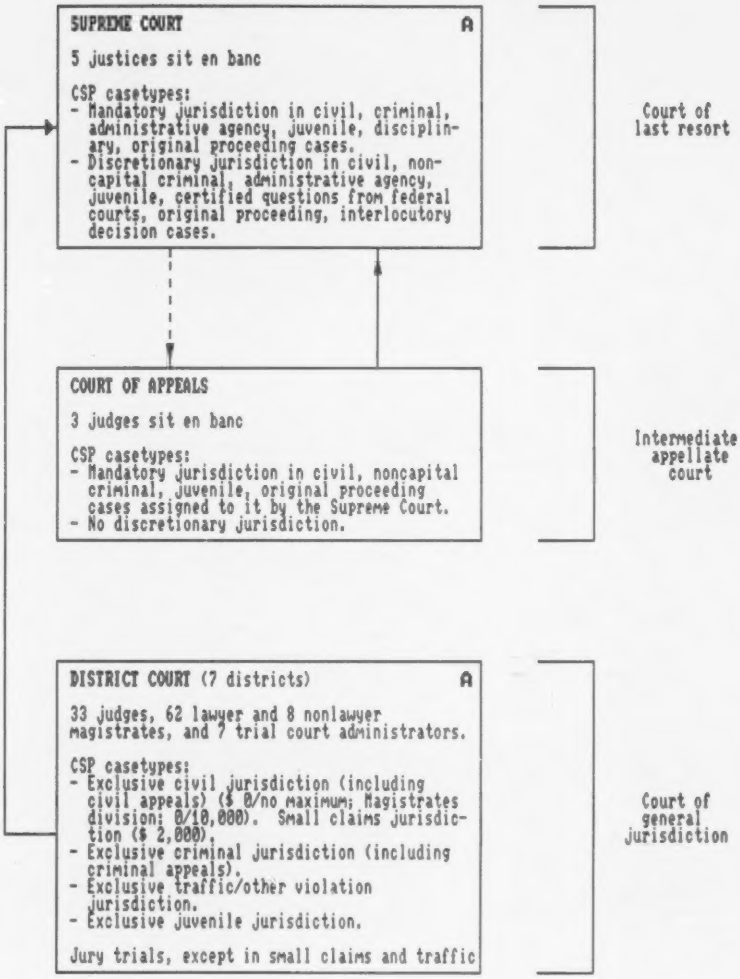
No jury trials.

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

* Some per diem judges are assigned to serve as per diem District & Family Court judges in the First Circuit.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

IDAHO COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases assigned to it by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURT (7 districts)

33 judges, 62 lawyer and 8 nonlawyer magistrates, and 7 trial court administrators.

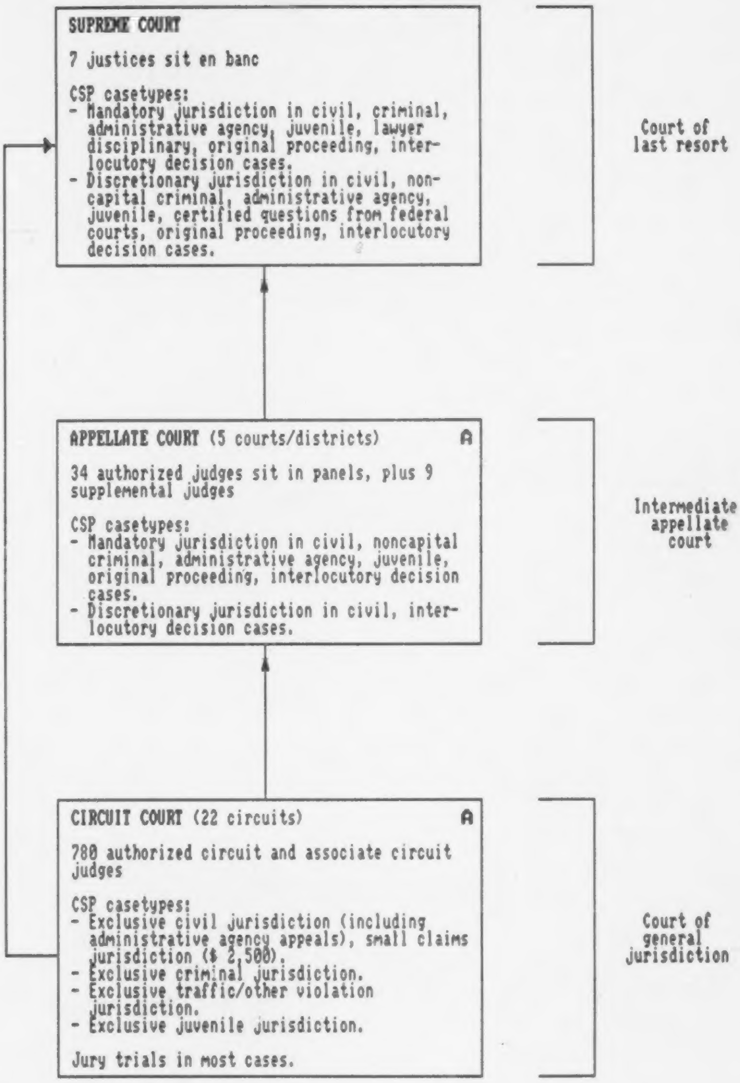
CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals) ($ 0/no maximum; Magistrates division: 0/10,000). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in small claims and traffic

---- indicates assignment of cases.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

ILLINOIS COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

APPELLATE COURT (5 courts/districts) A

34 authorized judges sit in panels, plus 9 supplemental judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, interlocutory decision cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (22 circuits) A

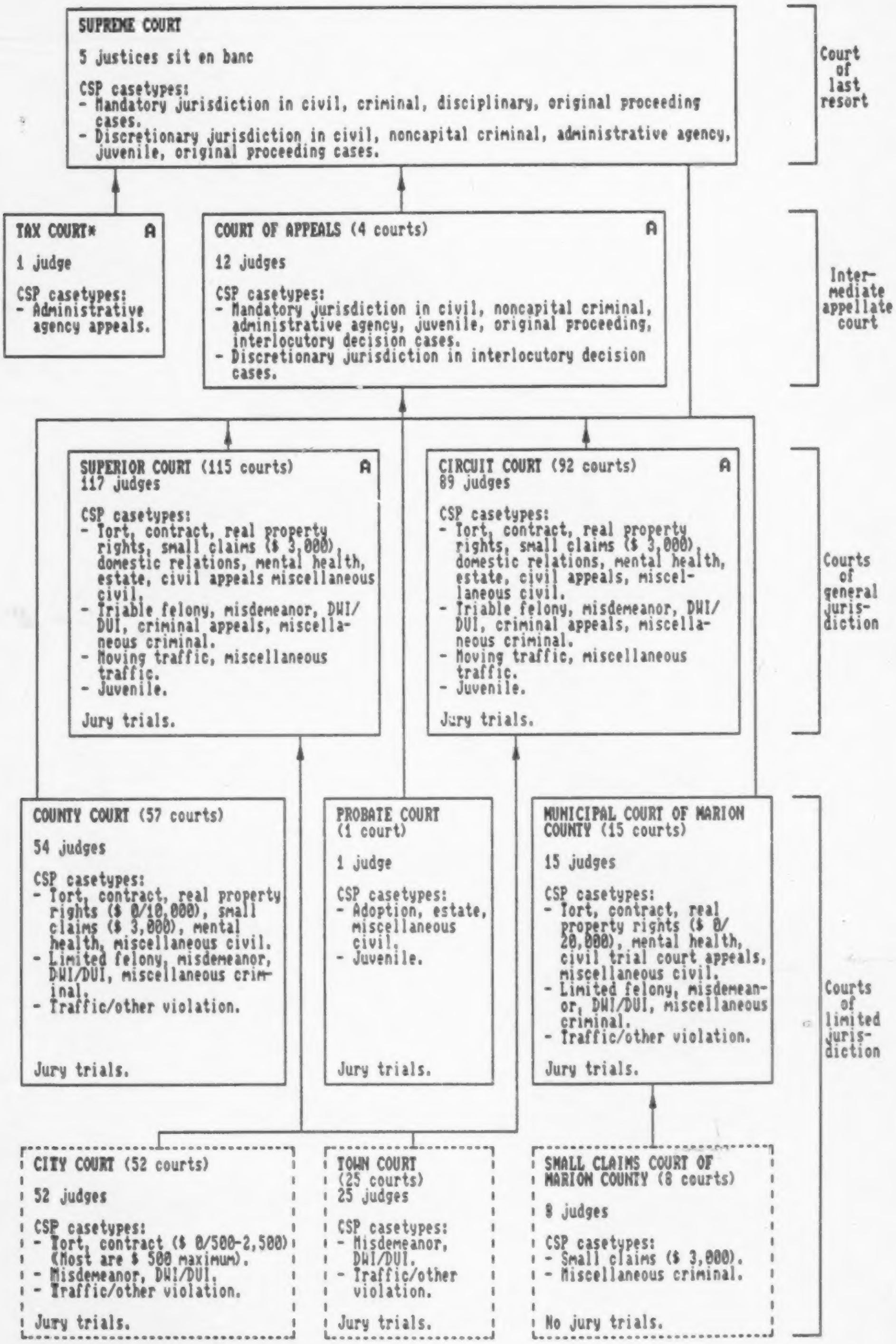
780 authorized circuit and associate circuit judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including administrative agency appeals), small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,500).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

INDIANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



Court of last resort
Inter-mediate appellate court
Courts of general juris-diction
Courts of limited juris-diction
A
A
A
A

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

TAX COURT*

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Administrative agency appeals.

COURT OF APPEALS (4 courts)

12 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT (115 courts)
117 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims ($ 3,000), domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

CIRCUIT COURT (92 courts)
89 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, small claims ($ 3,000), domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (57 courts)

54 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 3,000), mental health, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
(1 court)

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Adoption, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT OF MARION COUNTY (15 courts)

15 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/20,000), mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

CITY COURT (52 courts)

52 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/500-2,500) (Most are $ 500 maximum).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

TOWN COURT
(25 courts)
25 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

SMALL CLAIMS COURT OF MARION COUNTY (8 courts)

8 judges

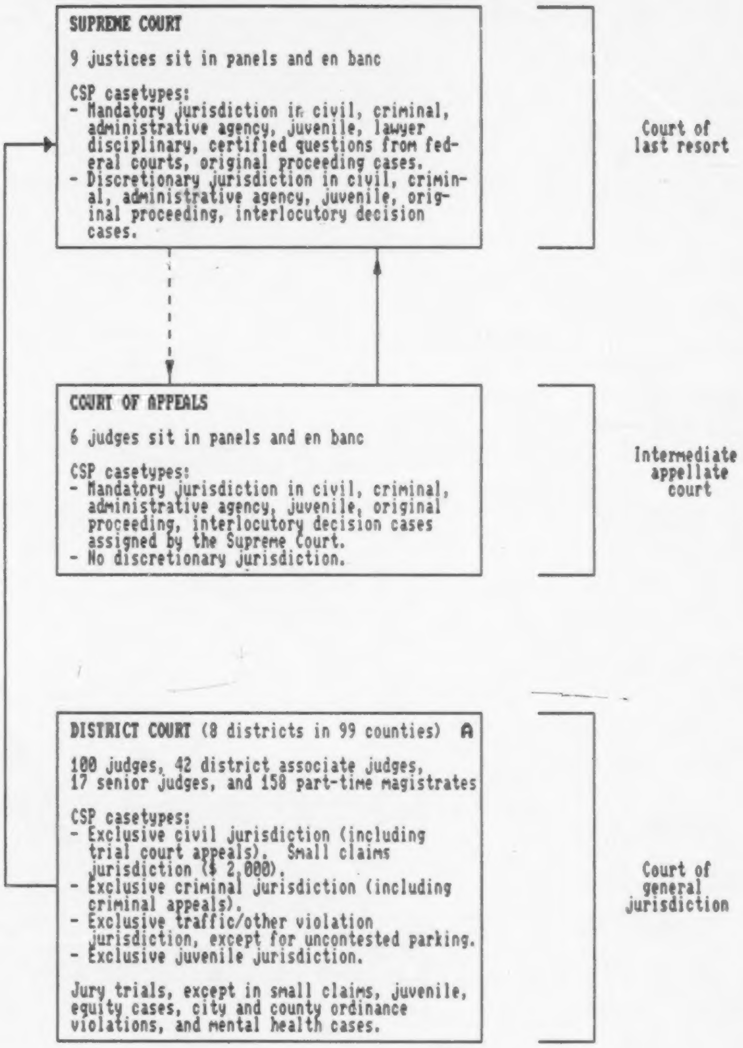
CSP casetypes:
- Small claims ($ 3,000).
- Miscellaneous criminal.

No jury trials.

* The Tax Court was established in 1986.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

IOWA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases assigned by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURT (8 districts in 99 counties) **A**

100 judges, 42 district associate judges, 17 senior judges, and 158 part-time magistrates

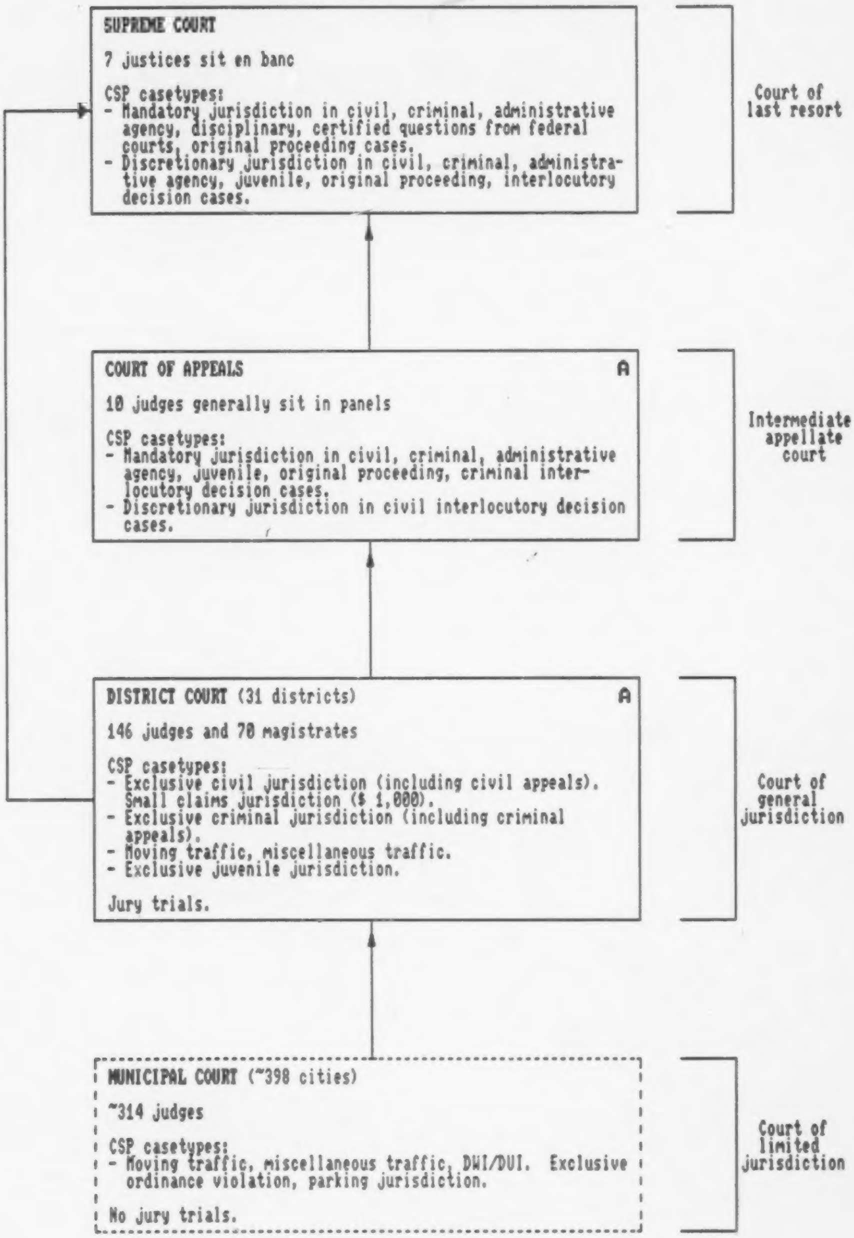
CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including trial court appeals). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction, except for uncontested parking.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in small claims, juvenile, equity cases, city and county ordinance violations, and mental health cases.

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

KANSAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

10 judges generally sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, criminal interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (31 districts) A

146 judges and 70 magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (~398 cities)

~314 judges

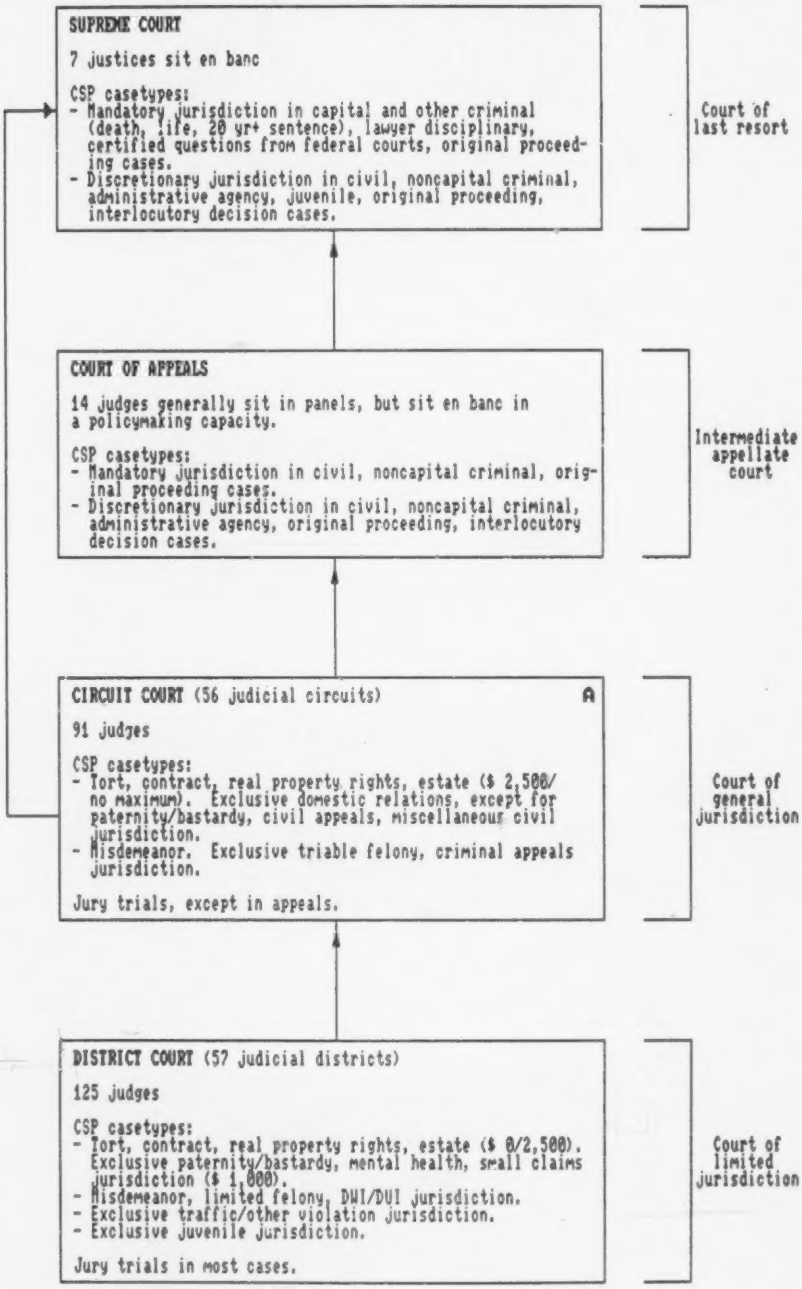
CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, DWI/DUI. Exclusive ordinance violation, parking jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

KENTUCKY COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital and other criminal (death, life, 20 yr+ sentence), lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

14 judges generally sit in panels, but sit en banc in a policymaking capacity.

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (56 judicial circuits) **A**

91 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate ($ 2,500/ no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, except for paternity/bastardy, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (57 judicial districts)

125 judges

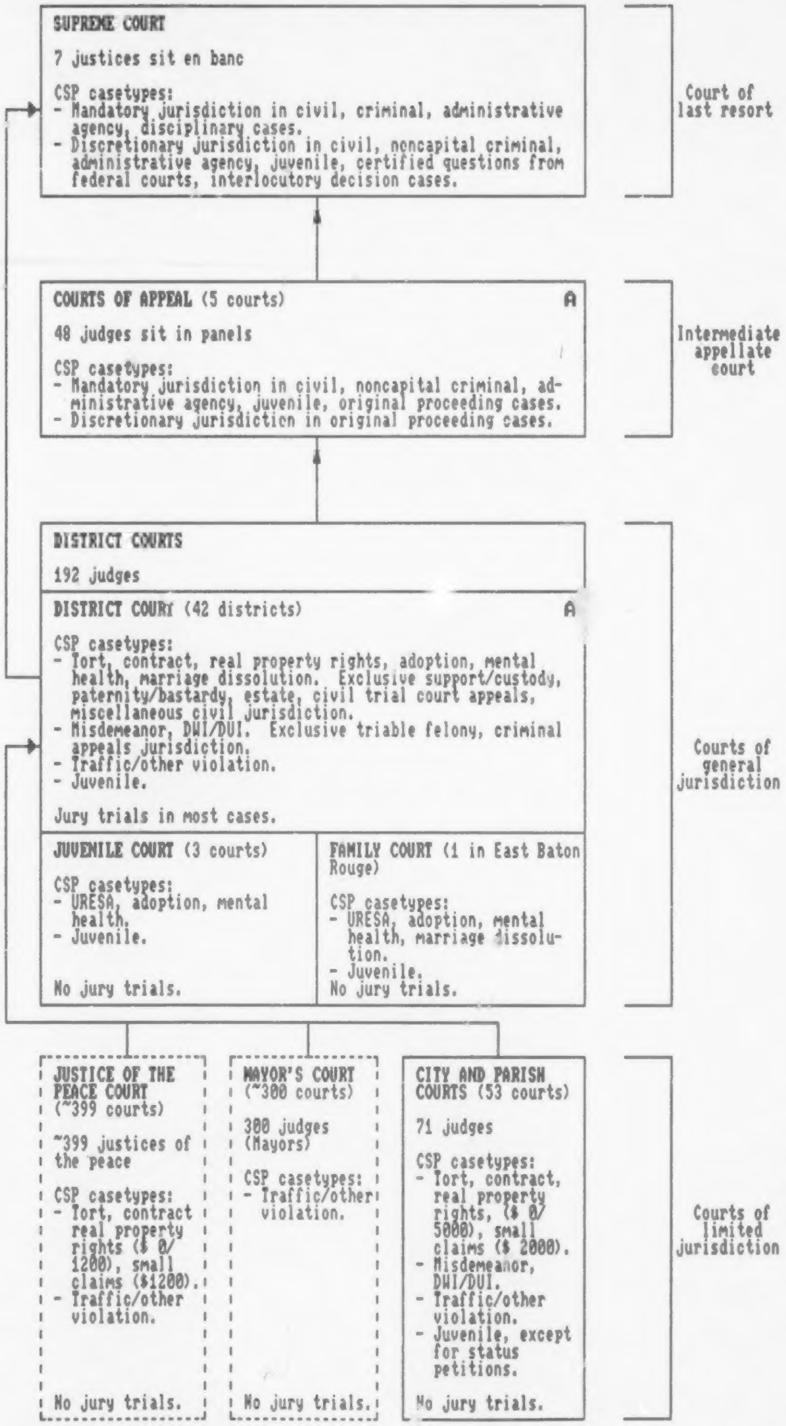
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate ($ 0/2,500). Exclusive paternity/bastardy, mental health, small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Misdemeanor, limited felony, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

LOUISIANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURTS OF APPEAL (5 courts) A

48 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in original proceeding cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURTS

192 judges

DISTRICT COURT (42 districts) A

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, adoption, mental health, marriage dissolution. Exclusive support/custody, paternity/bastardy, estate, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

JUVENILE COURT (3 courts)

CSP casetypes:
- URESA, adoption, mental health.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

FAMILY COURT (1 in East Baton Rouge)

CSP casetypes:
- URESA, adoption, mental health, marriage dissolution.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(~399 courts)

~399 justices of the peace

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract real property rights ($ 0/1200), small claims ($1200).
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

MAYOR'S COURT
(~300 courts)

300 judges (Mayors)

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

CITY AND PARISH COURTS (53 courts)

71 judges

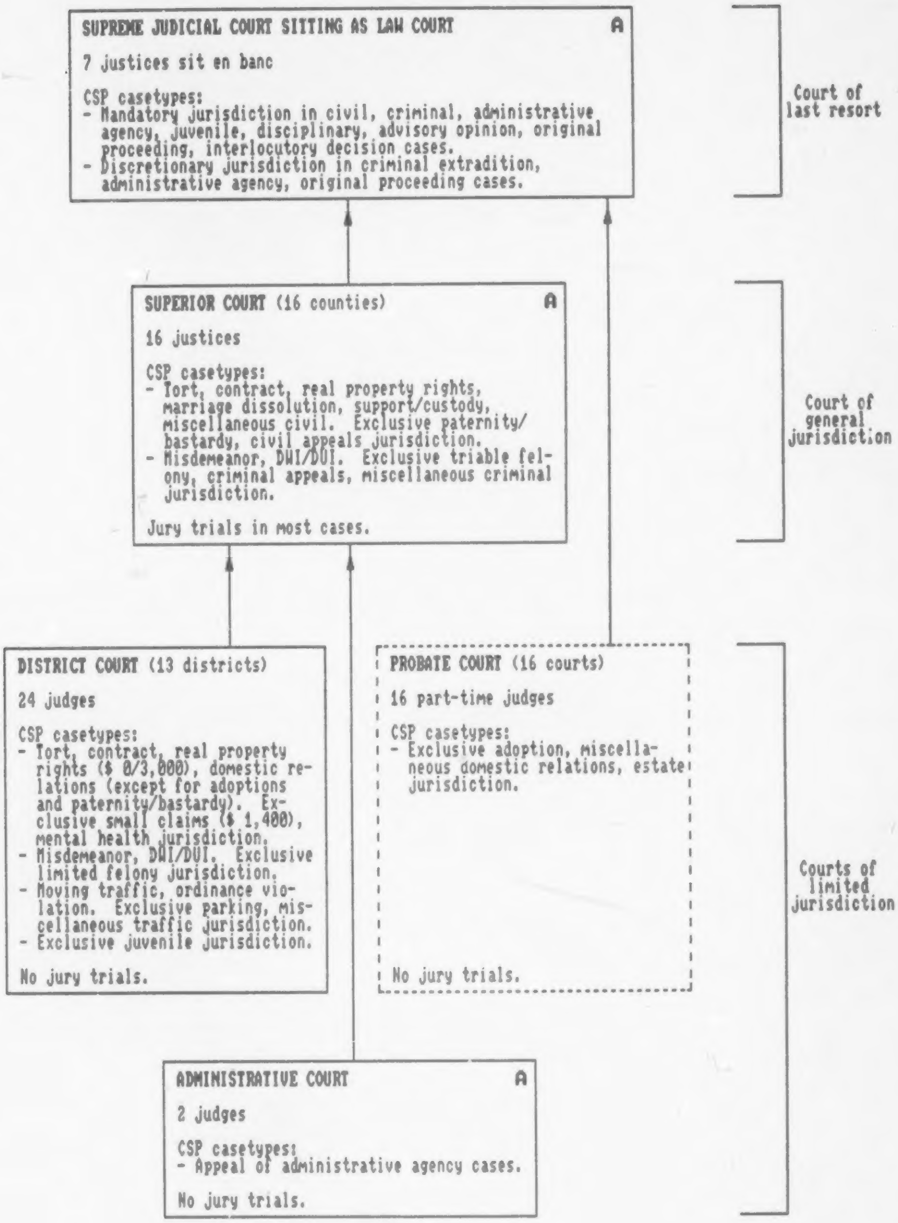
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, ($ 0/5000), small claims ($ 2000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile, except for status petitions.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

MAINE COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT SITTING AS LAW COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal extradition, administrative agency, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (16 counties) A

16 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, marriage dissolution, support/custody, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive paternity/bastardy, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (13 districts)

24 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,000), domestic relations (except for adoptions and paternity/bastardy). Exclusive small claims ($ 1,400), mental health jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, ordinance violation. Exclusive parking, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (16 courts)

16 part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

ADMINISTRATIVE COURT A

2 judges

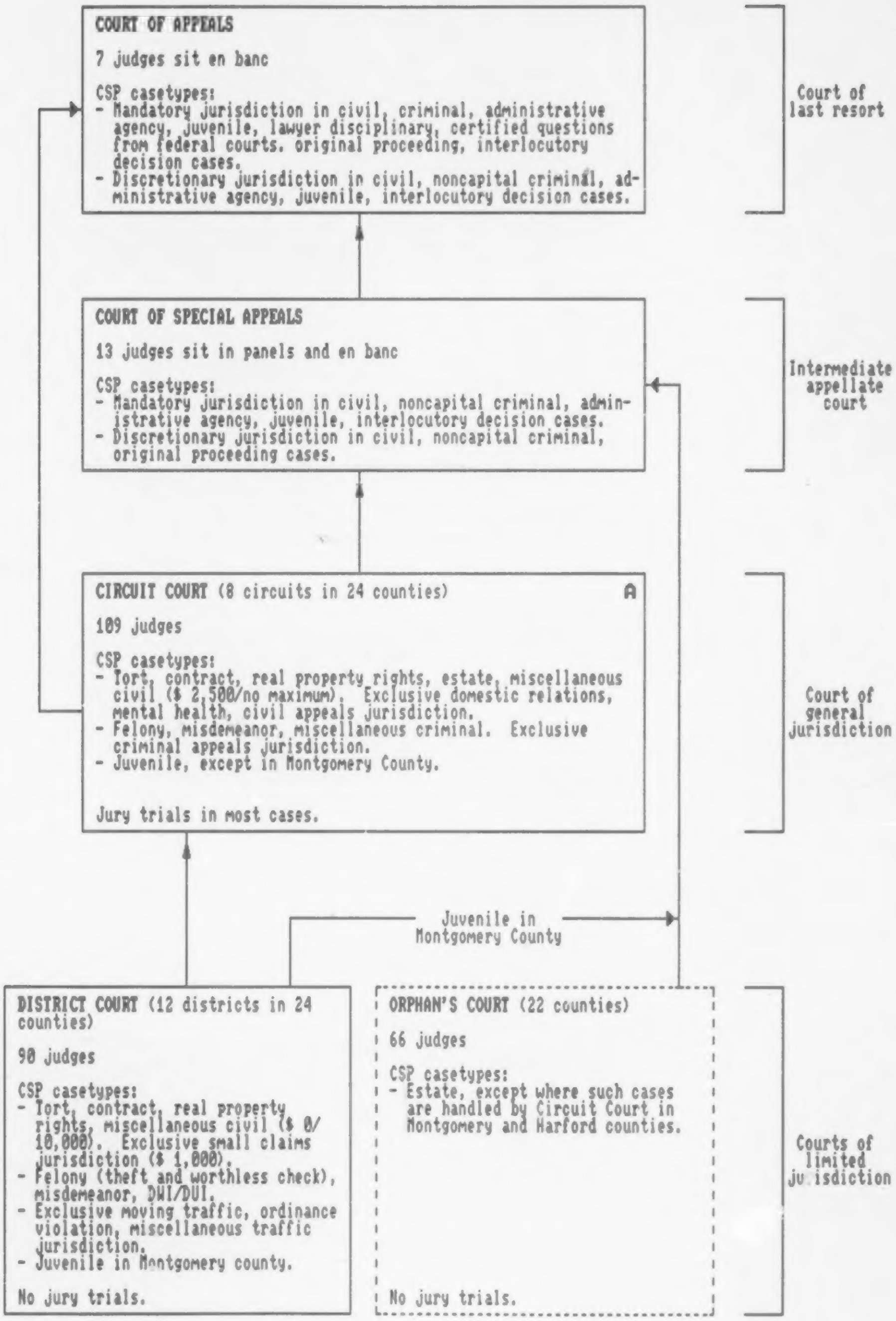
CSP casetypes:
- Appeal of administrative agency cases.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

MARYLAND COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



COURT OF APPEALS

7 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts. original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF SPECIAL APPEALS

13 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (8 circuits in 24 counties) A

109 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate, miscellaneous civil ($ 2,500/no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Felony, misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile, except in Montgomery County.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

Juvenile in Montgomery County

DISTRICT COURT (12 districts in 24 counties)

90 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 0/ 10,000). Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Felony (theft and worthless check), misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Exclusive moving traffic, ordinance violation, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Juvenile in Montgomery county.

No jury trials.

ORPHAN'S COURT (22 counties)

66 judges

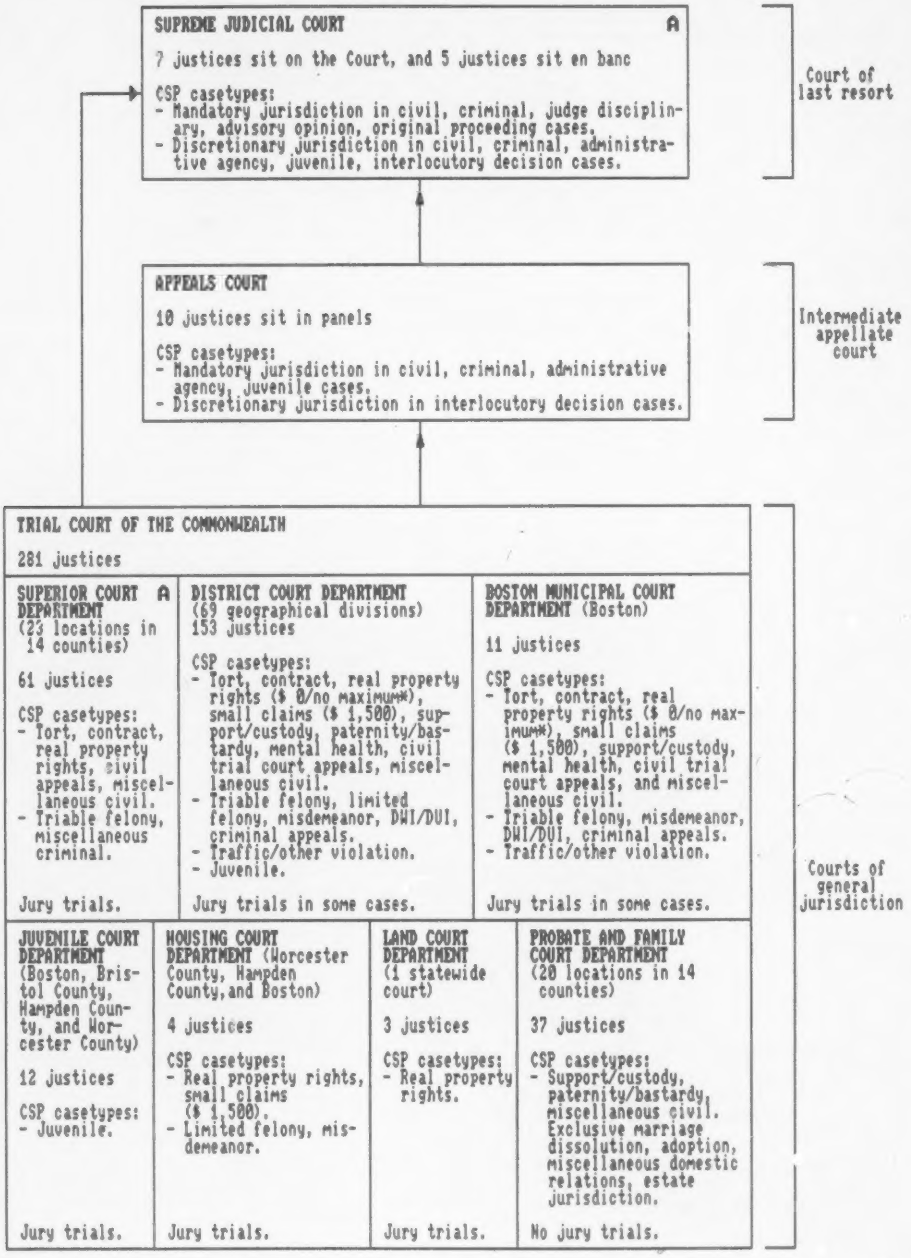
CSP casetypes:
- Estate, except where such cases are handled by Circuit Court in Montgomery and Harford counties.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

MASSACHUSETTS COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT A

7 justices sit on the Court, and 5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, judge disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

APPEALS COURT

10 justices sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

TRIAL COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH

281 justices

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT A (23 locations in 14 counties)

61 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, miscellaneous criminal.

Jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT (69 geographical divisions) 153 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/no maximum*), small claims ($ 1,500), support/custody, paternity/bastardy, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in some cases.

BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT DEPARTMENT (Boston)

11 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/no maximum*), small claims ($ 1,500), support/custody, mental health, civil trial court appeals, and miscellaneous civil.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some cases.

JUVENILE COURT DEPARTMENT (Boston, Bristol County, Hampden County, and Worcester County)

12 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

HOUSING COURT DEPARTMENT (Worcester County, Hampden County, and Boston)

4 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights, small claims ($ 1,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.

Jury trials.

LAND COURT DEPARTMENT (1 statewide court)

3 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights.

Jury trials.

PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT (20 locations in 14 counties)

37 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution, adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, estate jurisdiction.

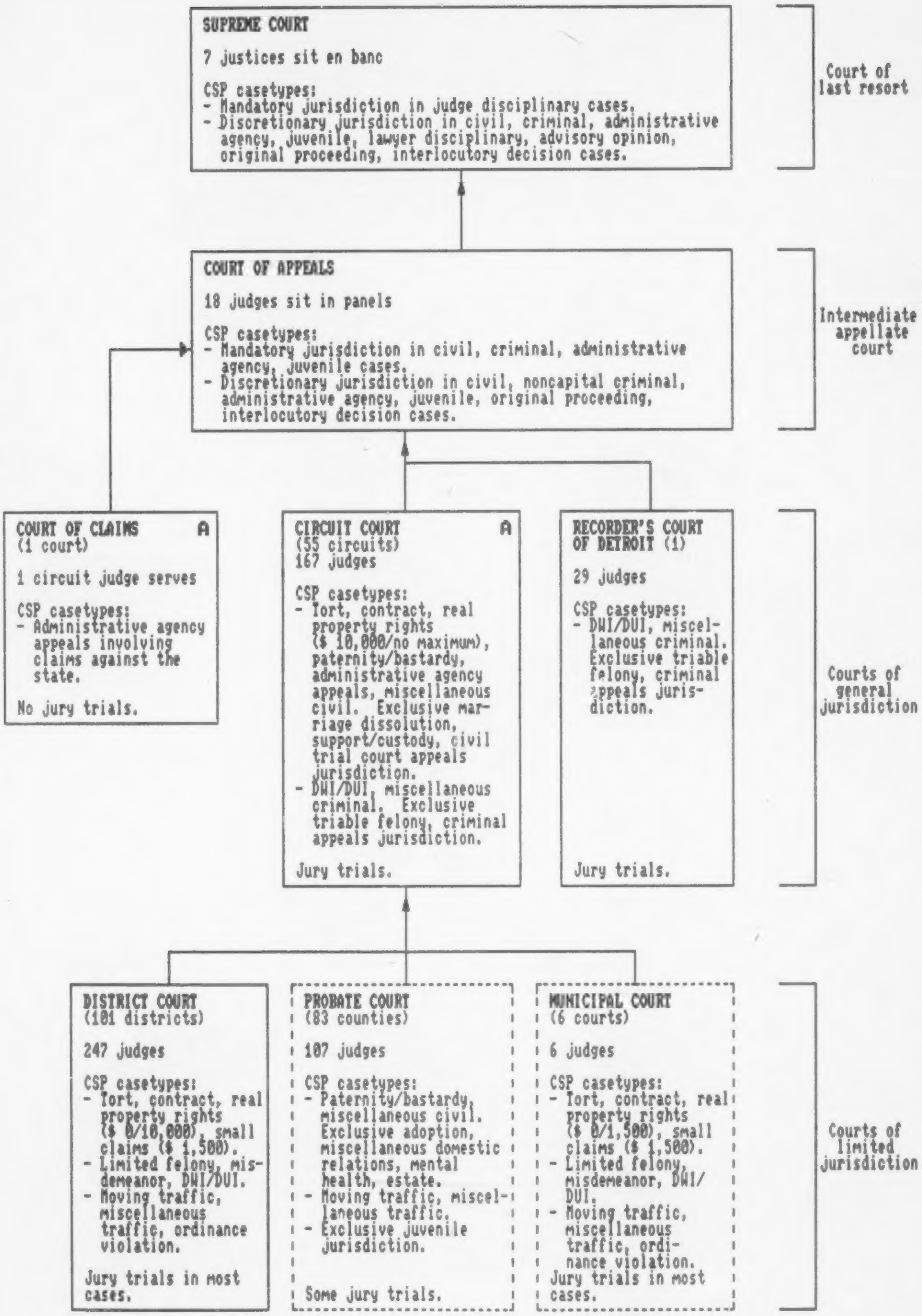
No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

* Limited dollar jurisdiction in tort and contract cases is $ 25,000.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

MICHIGAN COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in judge disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS

18 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

COURT OF CLAIMS A
(1 court)

1 circuit judge serves

CSP casetypes:
- Administrative agency appeals involving claims against the state.

No jury trials.

CIRCUIT COURT A
(55 circuits)
167 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 10,000/no maximum), paternity/bastardy, administrative agency appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution, support/custody, civil trial court appeals jurisdiction.
- DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

RECORDER'S COURT OF DETROIT (1)

29 judges

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT
(101 districts)

247 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

PROBATE COURT
(83 counties)

107 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health, estate.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Some jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(6 courts)

6 judges

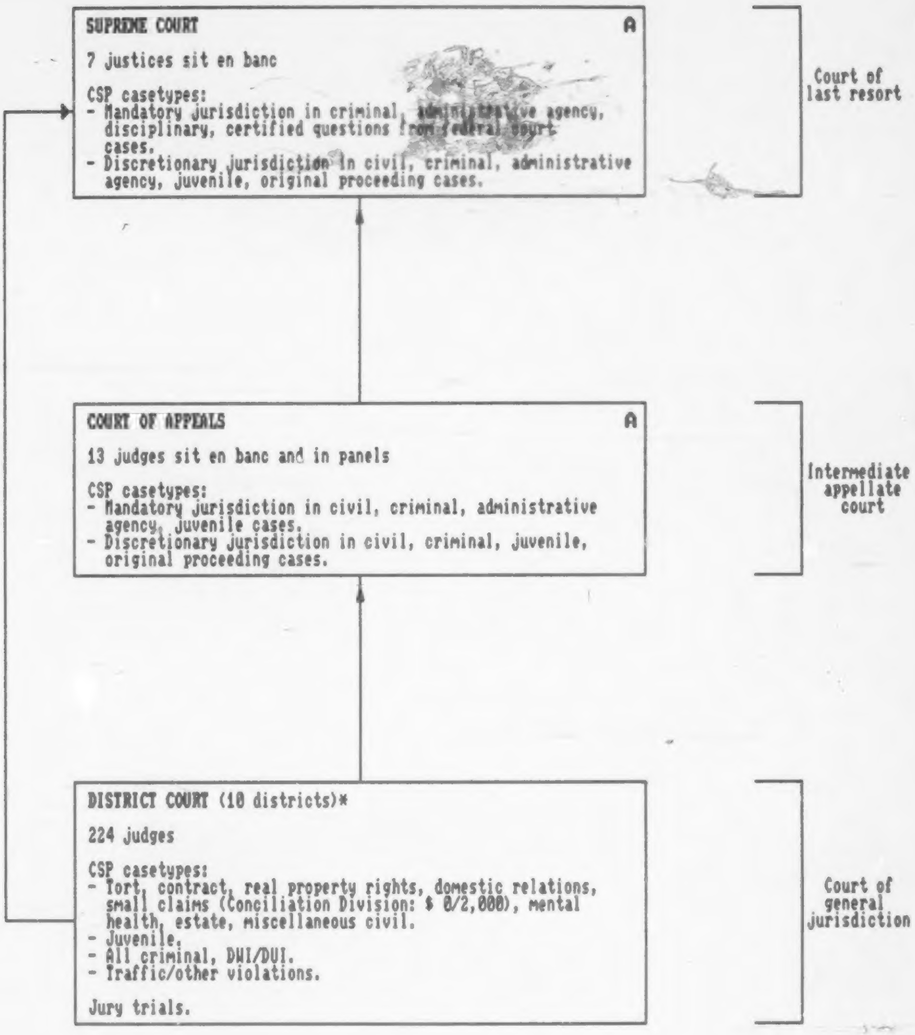
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/1,500), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

MINNESOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from federal court cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

13 judges sit en banc and in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (10 districts)*

224 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, domestic relations, small claims (Conciliation Division: $ 0/2,000), mental health, estate, miscellaneous civil.
- Juvenile.
- All criminal, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violations.

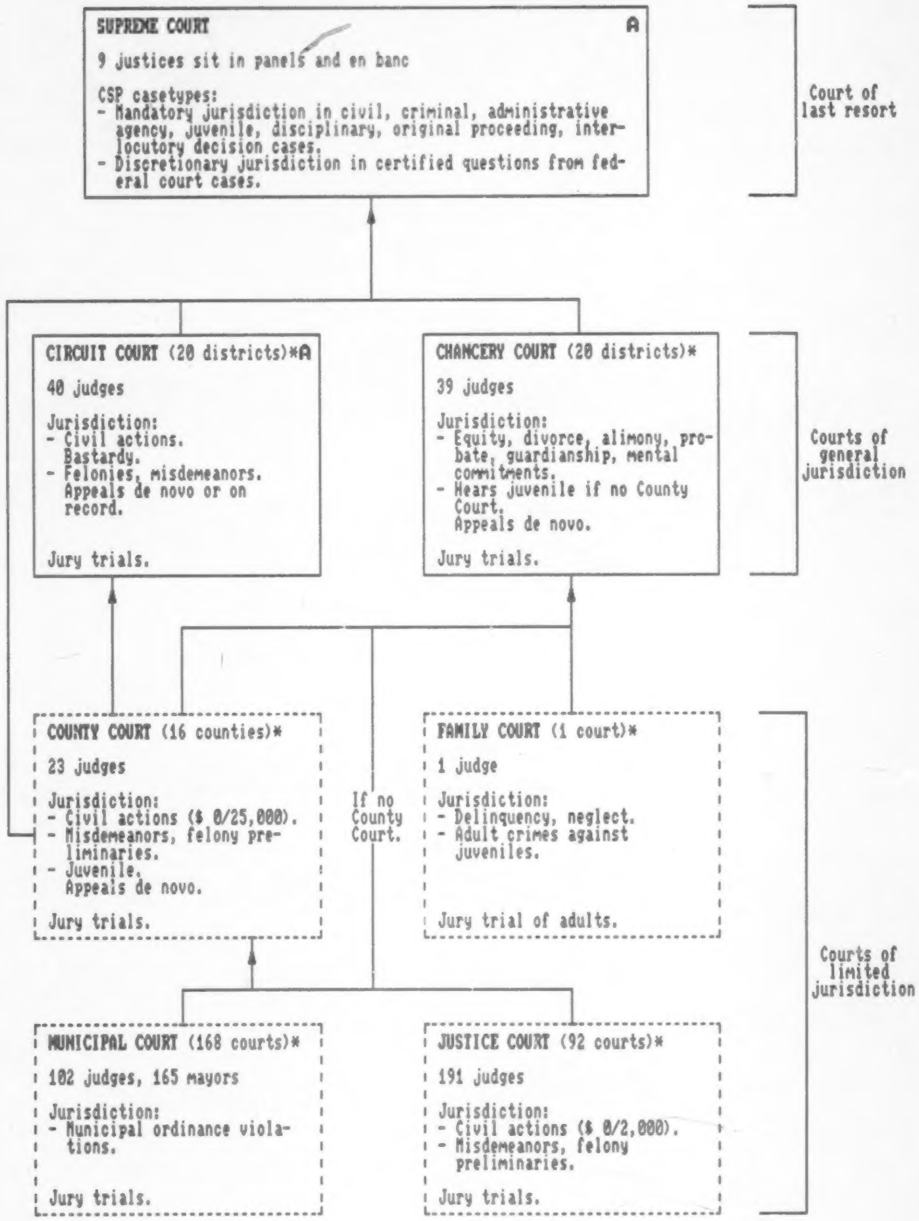
Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

* The District Court was consolidated in September, 1987.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

MISSISSIPPI COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

9 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in certified questions from federal court cases.

CIRCUIT COURT (20 districts)*A

40 judges

Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions. Bastardy.
- Felonies, misdemeanors. Appeals de novo or on record.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY COURT (20 districts)*

39 judges

Jurisdiction:
- Equity, divorce, alimony, probate, guardianship, mental commitments.
- Hears juvenile if no County Court. Appeals de novo.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (16 counties)*

23 judges

Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions ($ 0/25,000).
- Misdemeanors, felony preliminaries.
- Juvenile. Appeals de novo.

Jury trials.

FAMILY COURT (1 court)*

1 judge

Jurisdiction:
- Delinquency, neglect.
- Adult crimes against juveniles.

Jury trial of adults.

MUNICIPAL COURT (168 courts)*

102 judges, 165 mayors

Jurisdiction:
- Municipal ordinance violations.

Jury trials.

JUSTICE COURT (92 courts)*

191 judges

Jurisdiction:
- Civil actions ($ 0/2,000).
- Misdemeanors, felony preliminaries.

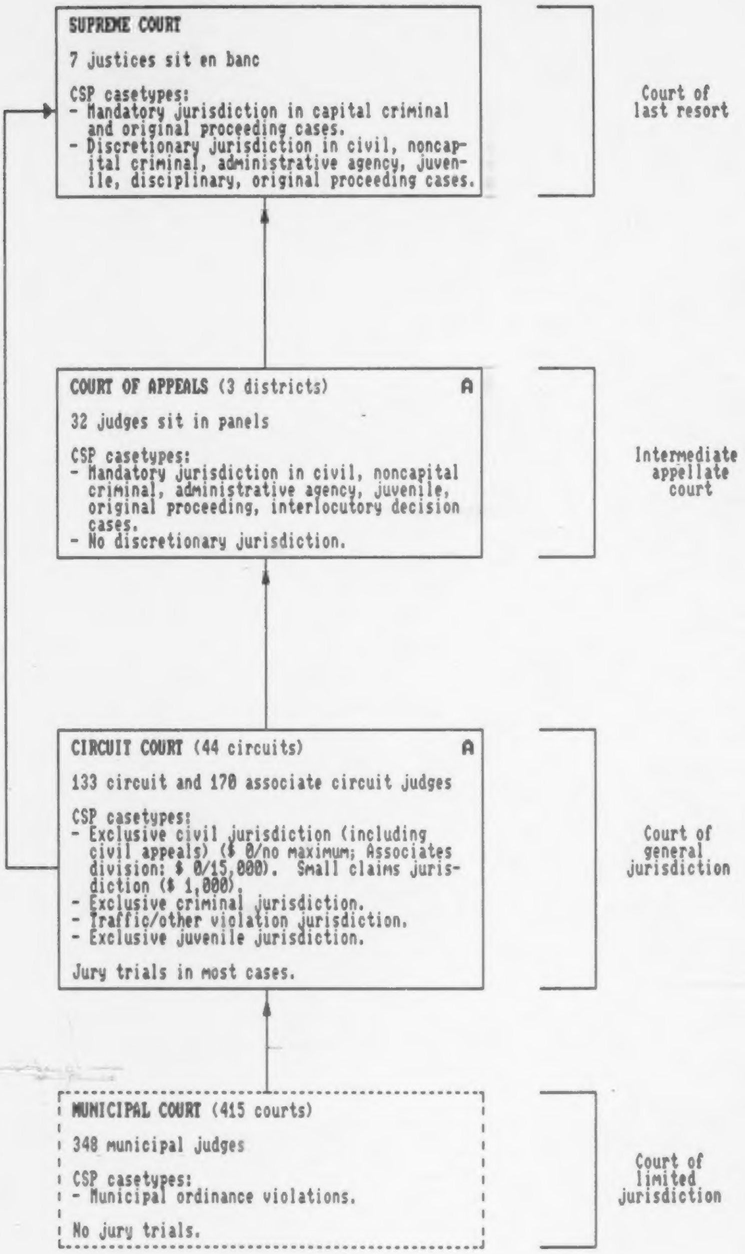
Jury trials.

Court of last resort
Courts of general jurisdiction
If no County Court.
Courts of limited jurisdiction

* A trial court jurisdiction guide was never completed by Mississippi, and data are unavailable for the trial courts; therefore, the trial court terminology reported in this court structure chart does not reflect CSP model reporting terms.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

MISSOURI COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal and original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF APPEALS (3 districts) A

32 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

CIRCUIT COURT (44 circuits) A

133 circuit and 170 associate circuit judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals) ($ 0/no maximum; Associates division: $ 0/15,000). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (415 courts)

348 municipal judges

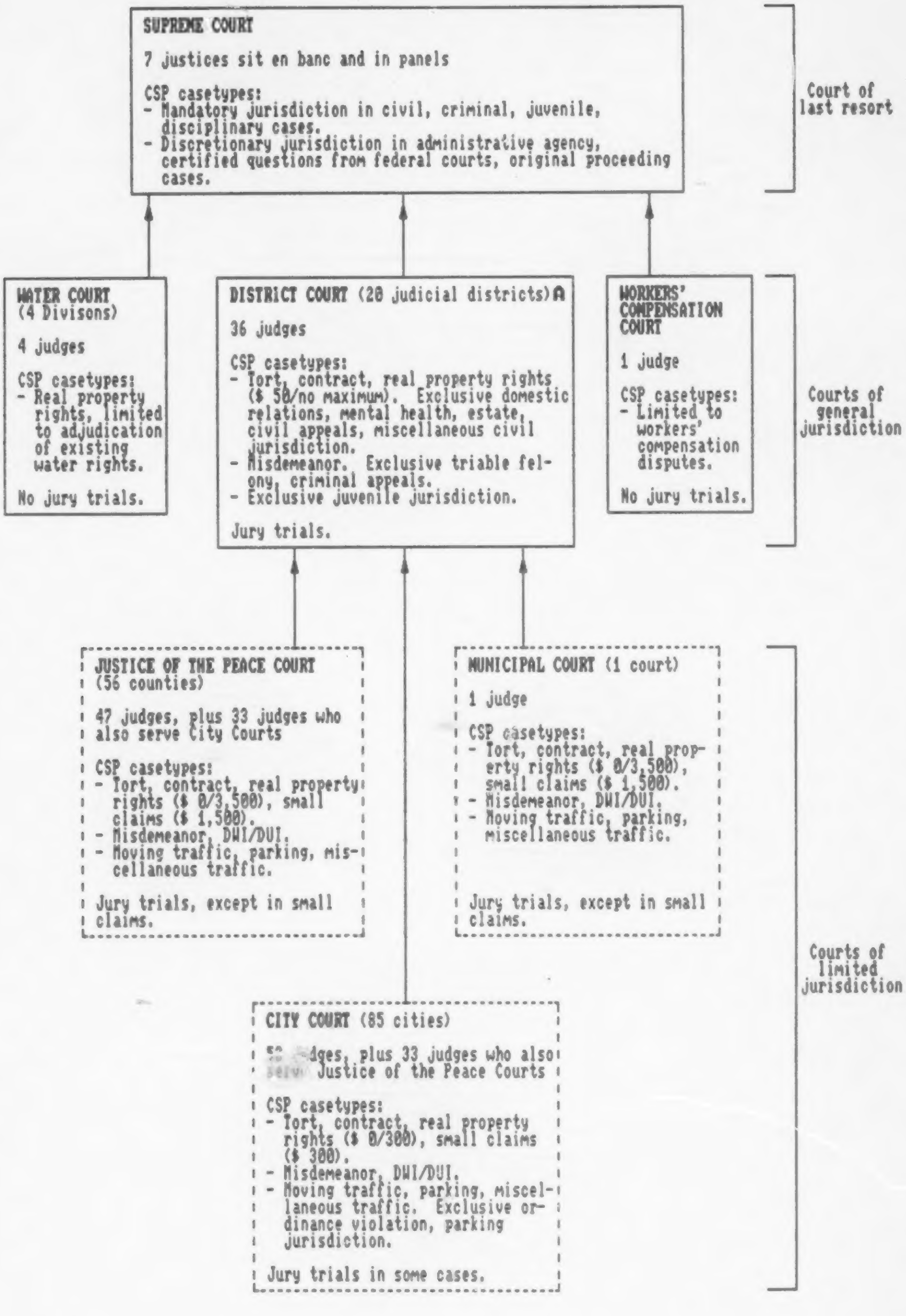
CSP casetypes:
- Municipal ordinance violations.

No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

MONTANA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

WATER COURT
(4 Divisons)

4 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights, limited to adjudication of existing water rights.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (20 judicial districts) A

36 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 50/no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Limited to workers' compensation disputes.

No jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(56 counties)

47 judges, plus 33 judges who also serve City Courts

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,500), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (1 court)

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,500), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

CITY COURT (85 cities)

52 judges, plus 33 judges who also serve Justice of the Peace Courts

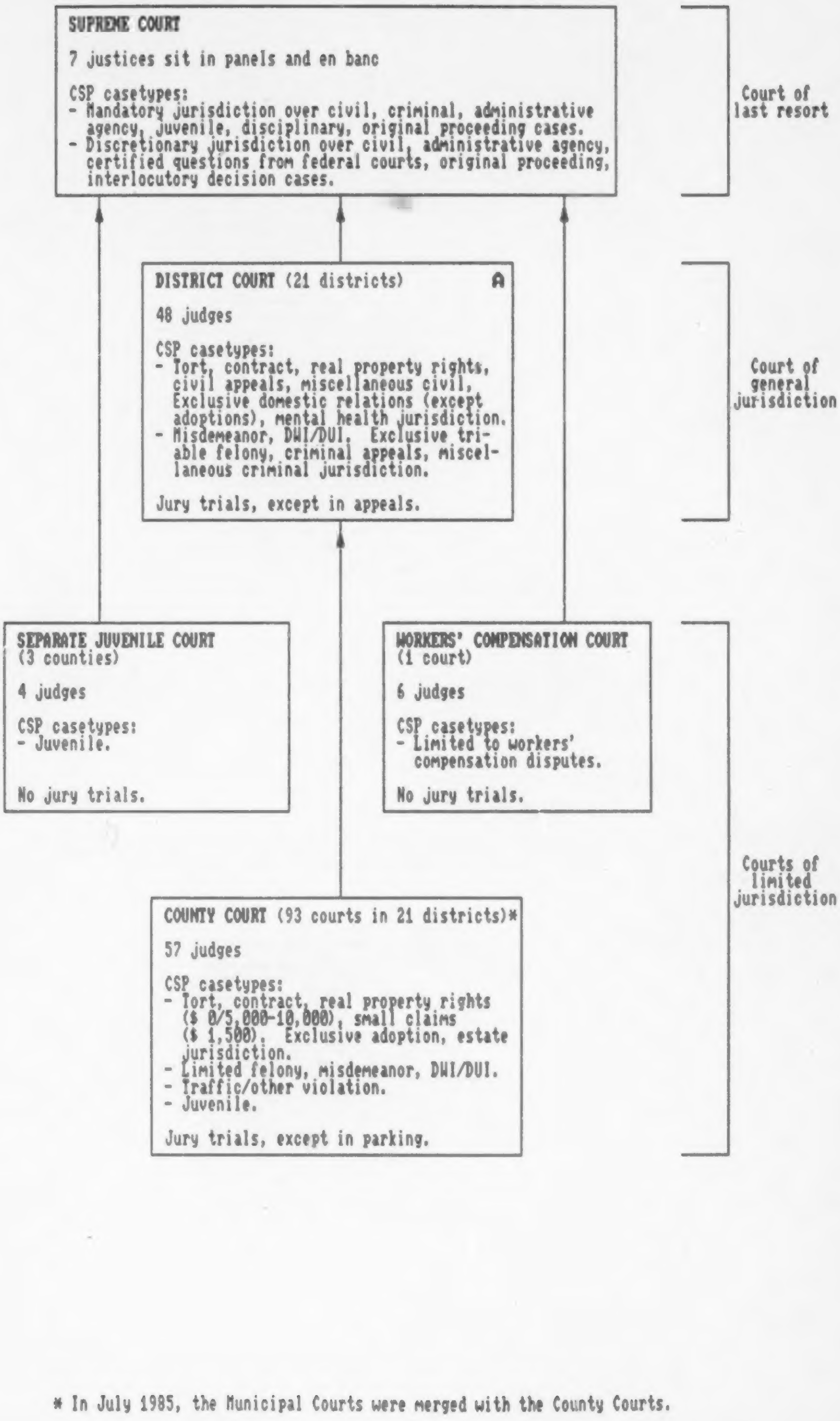
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/300), small claims ($ 300).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation, parking jurisdiction.

Jury trials in some cases.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

NEBRASKA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction over civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction over civil, administrative agency, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (21 districts) A

48 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations (except adoptions), mental health jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

Court of general jurisdiction

SEPARATE JUVENILE COURT (3 counties)

4 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION COURT (1 court)

6 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited to workers' compensation disputes.

No jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (93 courts in 21 districts)*

57 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000-10,000), small claims ($ 1,500). Exclusive adoption, estate jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

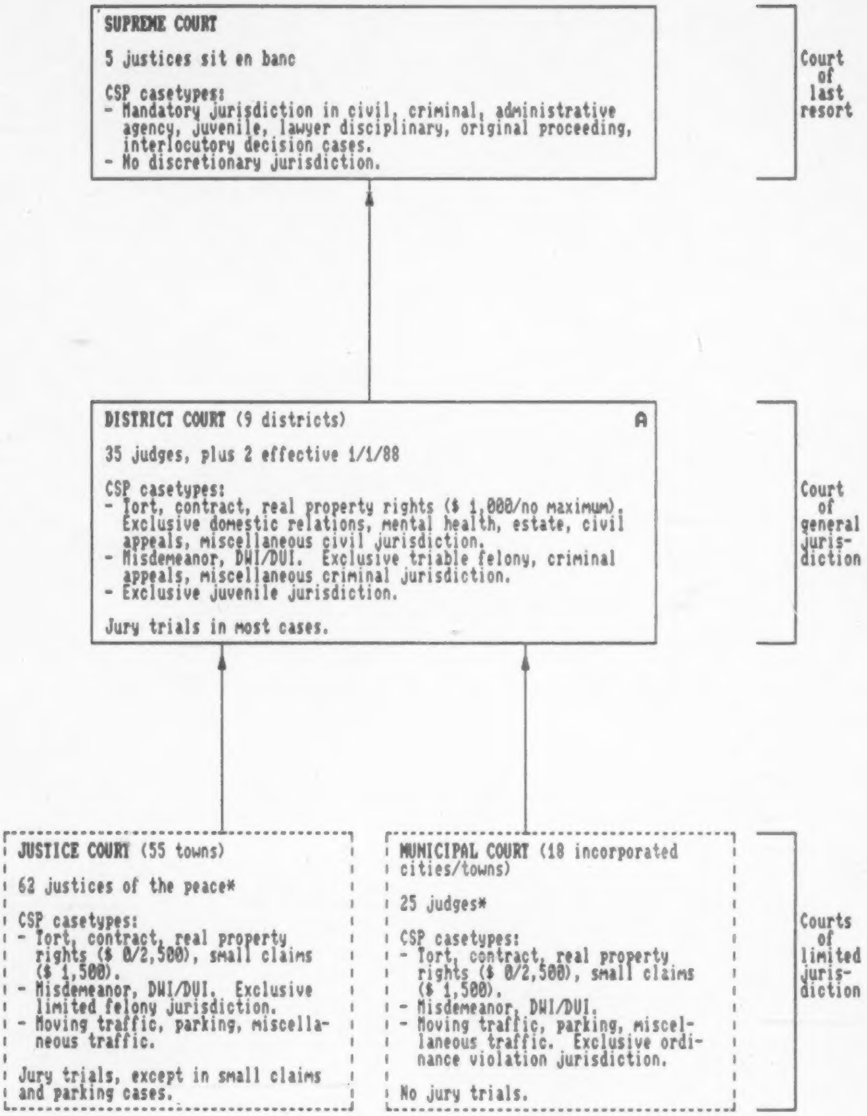
Jury trials, except in parking.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* In July 1985, the Municipal Courts were merged with the County Courts.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

NEVADA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Court of last resort

DISTRICT COURT (9 districts) A

35 judges, plus 2 effective 1/1/88

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1,000/no maximum). Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

JUSTICE COURT (55 towns)

62 justices of the peace*

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims and parking cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (18 incorporated cities/towns)

25 judges*

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

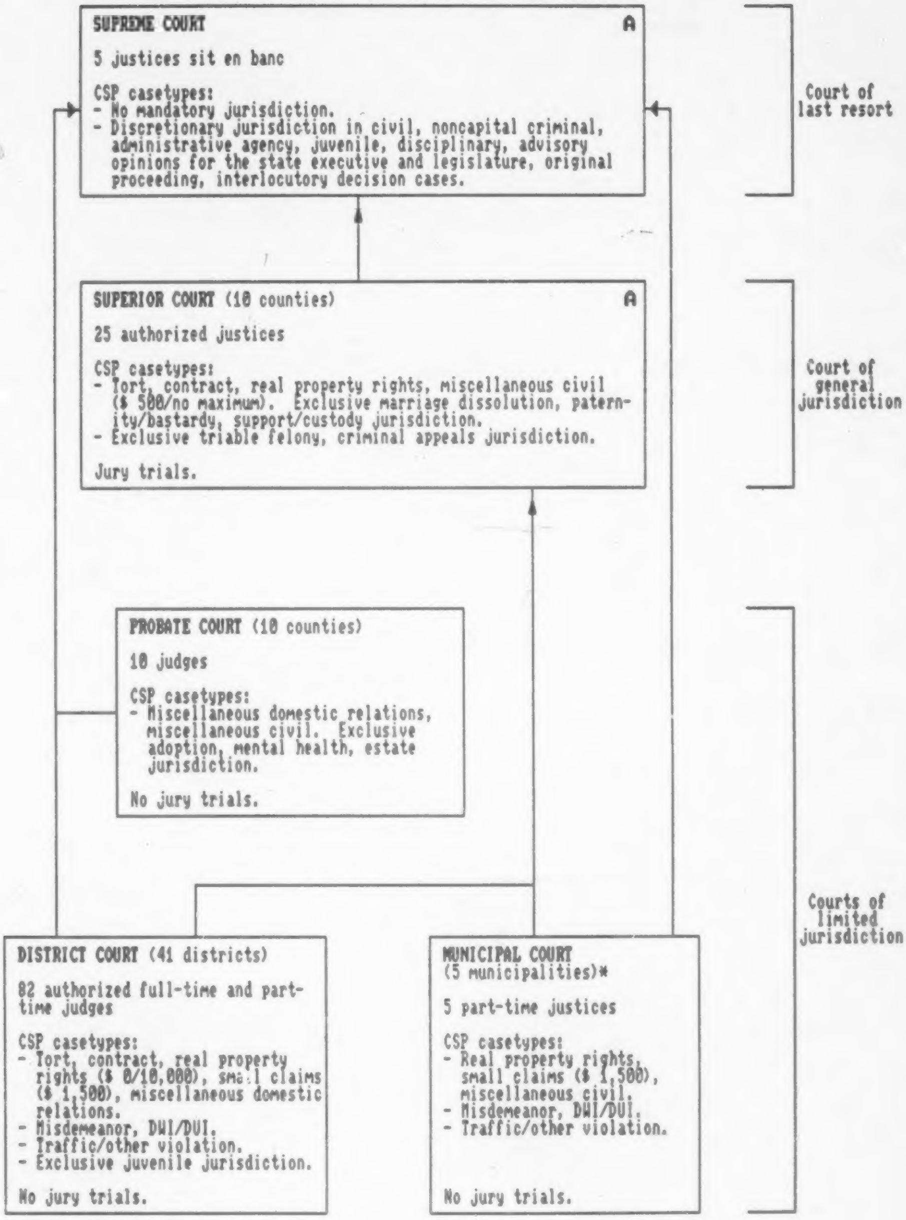
No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* Eight Justices of the Peace also serve as Municipal Court judges.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

NEW HAMPSHIRE COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinions for the state executive and legislature, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (10 counties) A

25 authorized justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 500/no maximum). Exclusive marriage dissolution, paternity/bastardy, support/custody jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT (10 counties)

10 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, mental health, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (41 districts)

82 authorized full-time and part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 1,500), miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(5 municipalities)*

5 part-time justices

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights, small claims ($ 1,500), miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

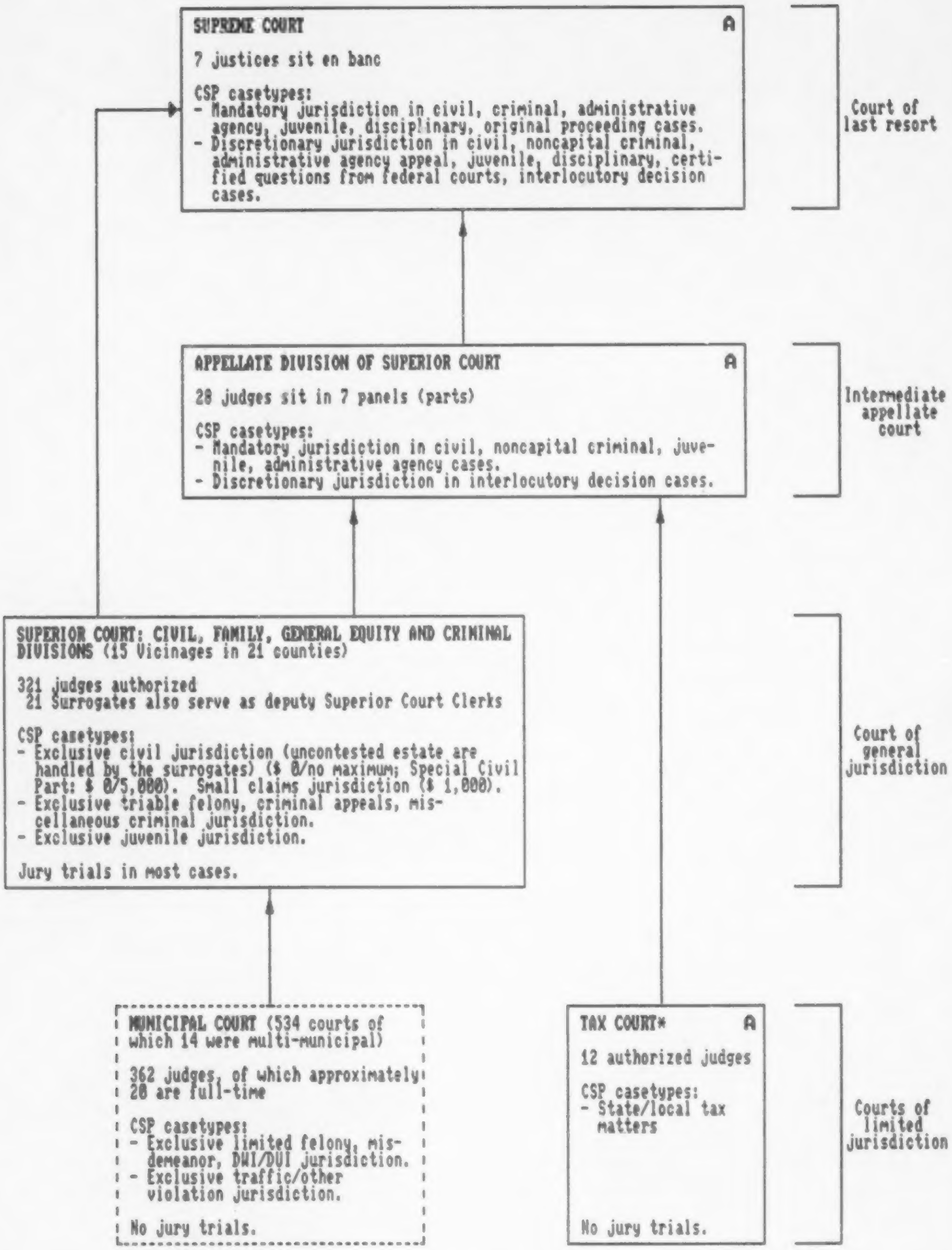
No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* The Municipal Court is being phased out (by statute) upon retirement and/or resignation of sitting justices.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

NEW JERSEY COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency appeal, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, interlocutory decision cases.

APPELLATE DIVISION OF SUPERIOR COURT A

28 judges sit in 7 panels (parts)

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, administrative agency cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

SUPERIOR COURT: CIVIL, FAMILY, GENERAL EQUITY AND CRIMINAL DIVISIONS (15 Vicinages in 21 counties)

321 judges authorized
21 Surrogates also serve as deputy Superior Court Clerks

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (uncontested estate are handled by the surrogates) ($ 0/no maximum; Special Civil Part: $ 0/5,000). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (534 courts of which 14 were multi-municipal)

362 judges, of which approximately 20 are full-time

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

TAX COURT* A

12 authorized judges

CSP casetypes:
- State/local tax matters

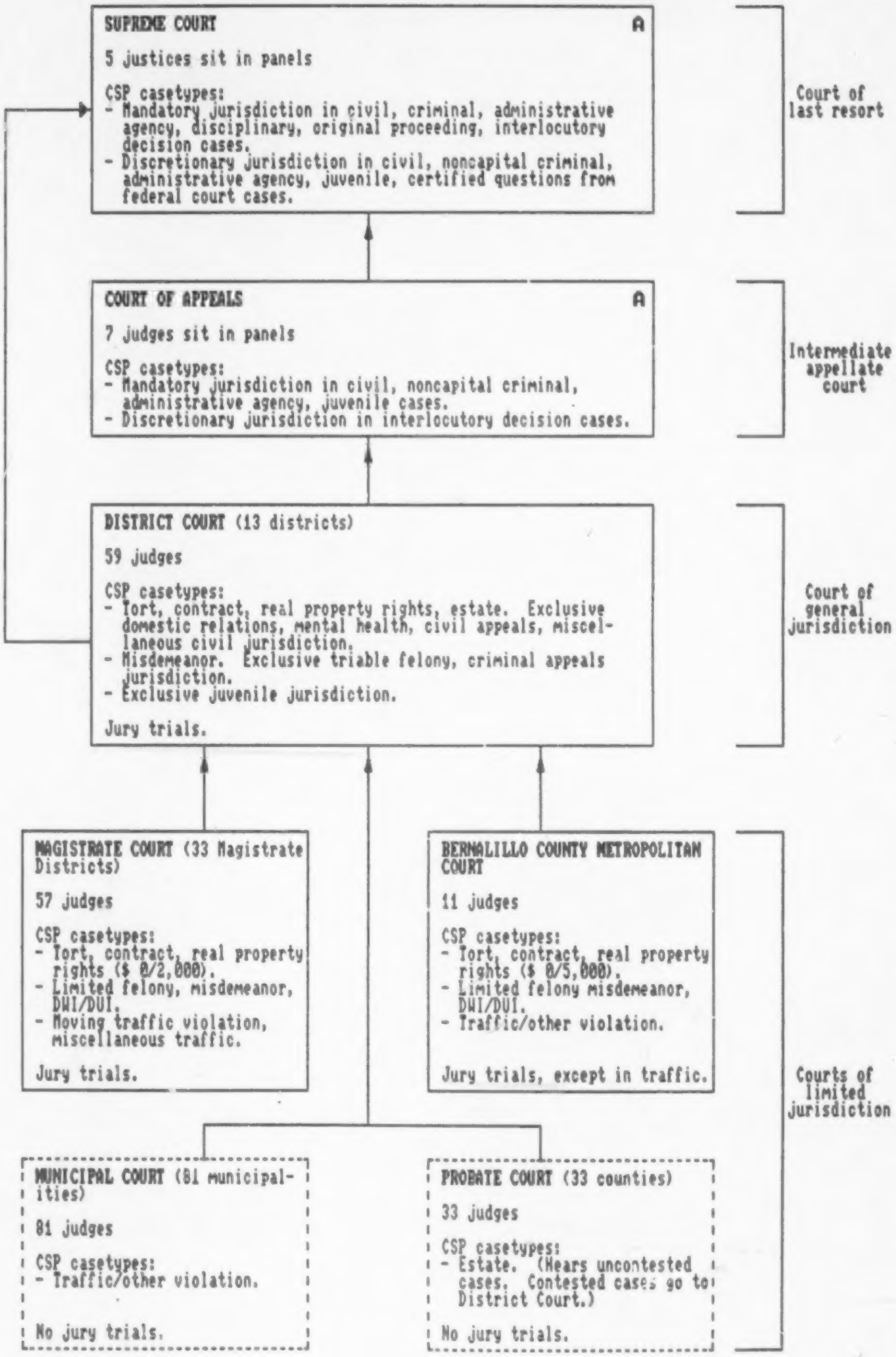
No jury trials.

Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

* Tax Court is considered a limited jurisdiction court because of its specialized subject matter. Nevertheless, it receives appeals from administrative bodies and its cases are appealed to the intermediate appellate court. Tax Court judges have the same general qualifications and terms of service as Superior Court judges and can be cross assigned.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

NEW MEXICO COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal court cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

7 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (13 districts)

59 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, estate. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MAGISTRATE COURT (33 Magistrate Districts)

57 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic violation, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

BERNALILLO COUNTY METROPOLITAN COURT

11 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000).
- Limited felony misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except in traffic.

MUNICIPAL COURT (81 municipalities)

81 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (33 counties)

33 judges

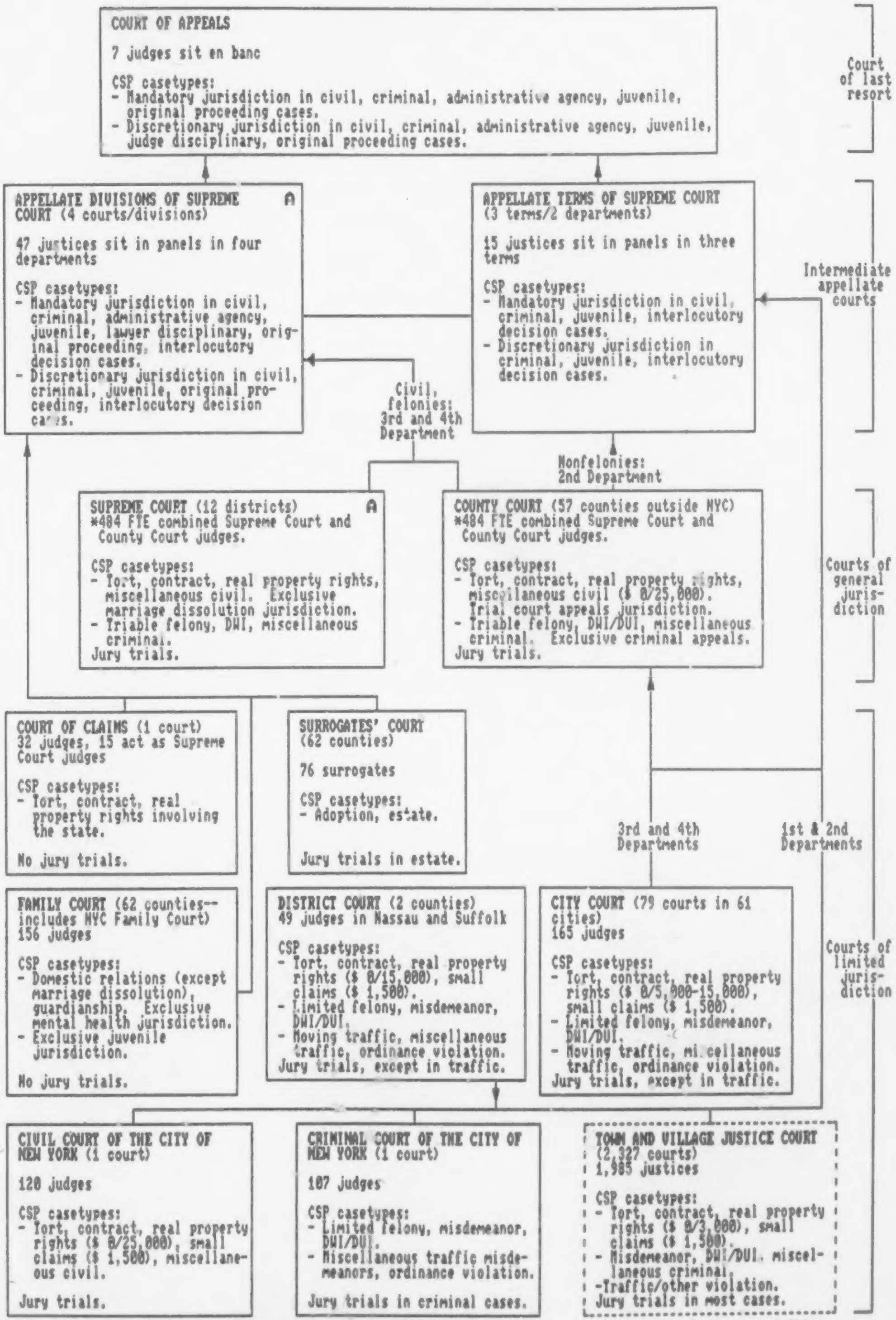
CSP casetypes:
- Estate. (Hears uncontested cases. Contested cases go to District Court.)

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

NEW YORK COURT STRUCTURE, 1987


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate courts
Courts of general juris- diction
Courts of limited juris- diction
A
A
Civil, felonies: 3rd and 4th Department
Nonfelonies: 2nd Department
3rd and 4th Departments
1st & 2nd Departments

COURT OF APPEALS

7 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, original proceeding cases.

APPELLATE DIVISIONS OF SUPREME COURT (4 courts/divisions)

47 justices sit in panels in four departments

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

APPELLATE TERMS OF SUPREME COURT (3 terms/2 departments)

15 justices sit in panels in three terms

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

SUPREME COURT (12 districts)
*484 FTE combined Supreme Court and County Court judges.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive marriage dissolution jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, DWI, miscellaneous criminal.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (57 counties outside NYC)
*484 FTE combined Supreme Court and County Court judges.

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil ($ 0/25,000). Trial court appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive criminal appeals.

Jury trials.

COURT OF CLAIMS (1 court)
32 judges, 15 act as Supreme Court judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights involving the state.

No jury trials.

SURROGATES' COURT
(62 counties)

76 surrogates

CSP casetypes:
- Adoption, estate.

Jury trials in estate.

FAMILY COURT (62 counties--includes NYC Family Court)
156 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Domestic relations (except marriage dissolution), guardianship. Exclusive mental health jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT (2 counties)
49 judges in Nassau and Suffolk

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/15,000), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials, except in traffic.

CITY COURT (79 courts in 61 cities)
165 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/5,000-15,000), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.

Jury trials, except in traffic.

CIVIL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (1 court)

120 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/25,000), small claims ($ 1,500), miscellaneous civil.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK (1 court)

107 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Miscellaneous traffic misdemeanors, ordinance violation.

Jury trials in criminal cases.

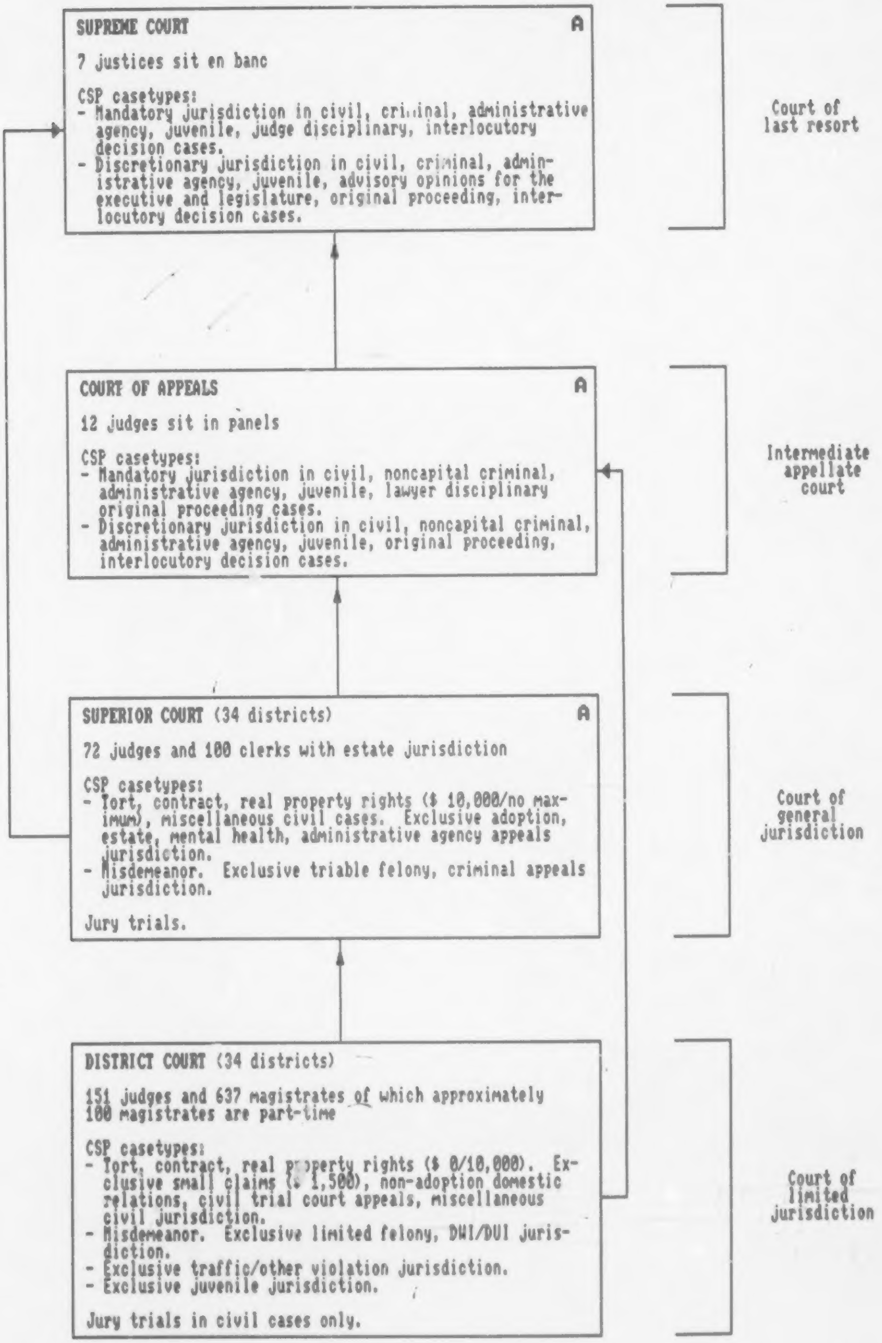
TOWN AND VILLAGE JUSTICE COURT
(2,327 courts)
1,985 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,000), small claims ($ 1,500).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

* Includes Acting Supreme Court Justices assigned administratively. NOTE: The text at the beginning of this of section contains important information relevant to this chart.

NORTH CAROLINA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, advisory opinions for the executive and legislature, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS A

12 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (34 districts) A

72 judges and 100 clerks with estate jurisdiction

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 10,000/no maximum), miscellaneous civil cases. Exclusive adoption, estate, mental health, administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (34 districts)

151 judges and 637 magistrates of which approximately 100 magistrates are part-time

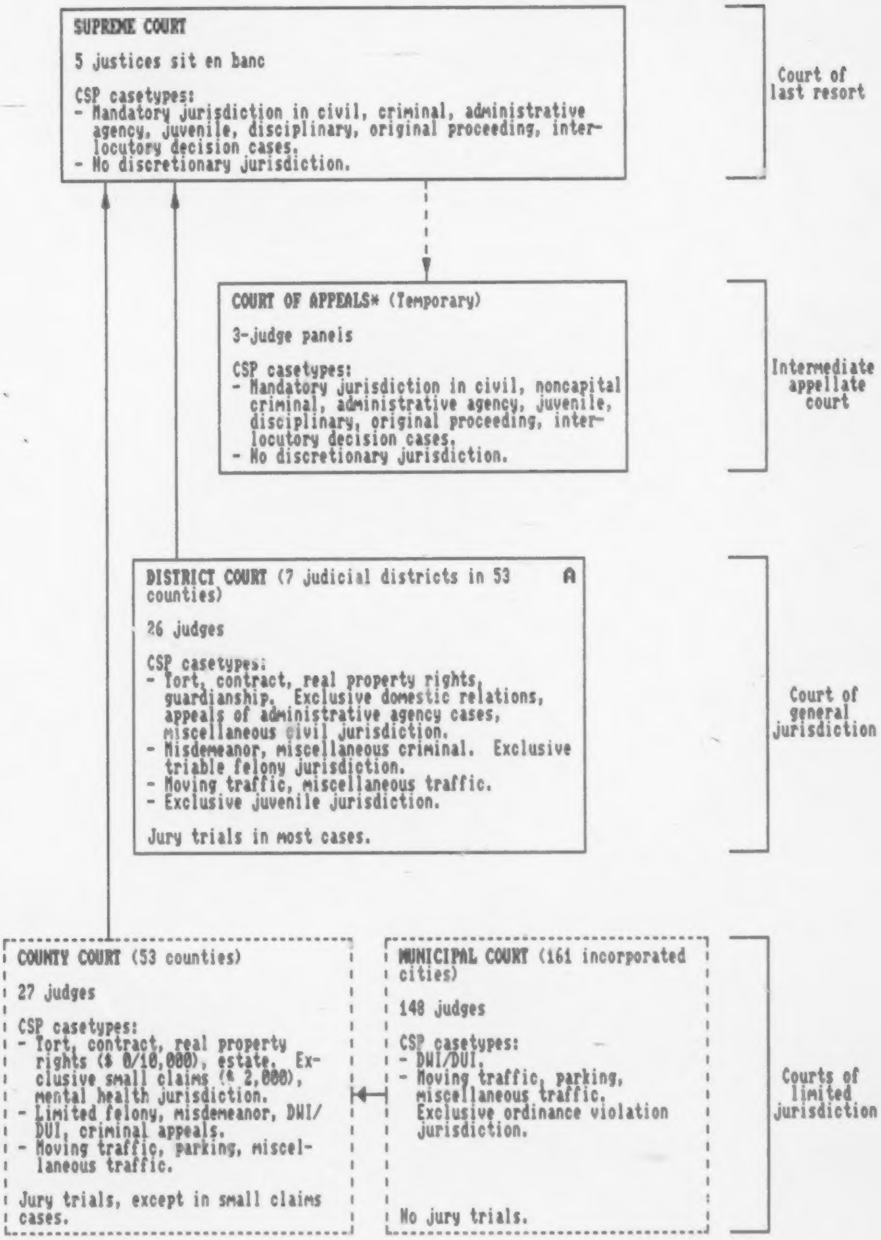
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000). Exclusive small claims ($ 1,500), non-adoption domestic relations, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive limited felony, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in civil cases only.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

NORTH DAKOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

COURT OF APPEALS* (Temporary)

3-judge panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURT (7 judicial districts in 53 counties)

26 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, guardianship. Exclusive domestic relations, appeals of administrative agency cases, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, miscellaneous criminal. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

COUNTY COURT (53 counties)

27 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), estate. Exclusive small claims ($ 2,000), mental health jurisdiction.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials, except in small claims cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (161 incorporated cities)

148 judges

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

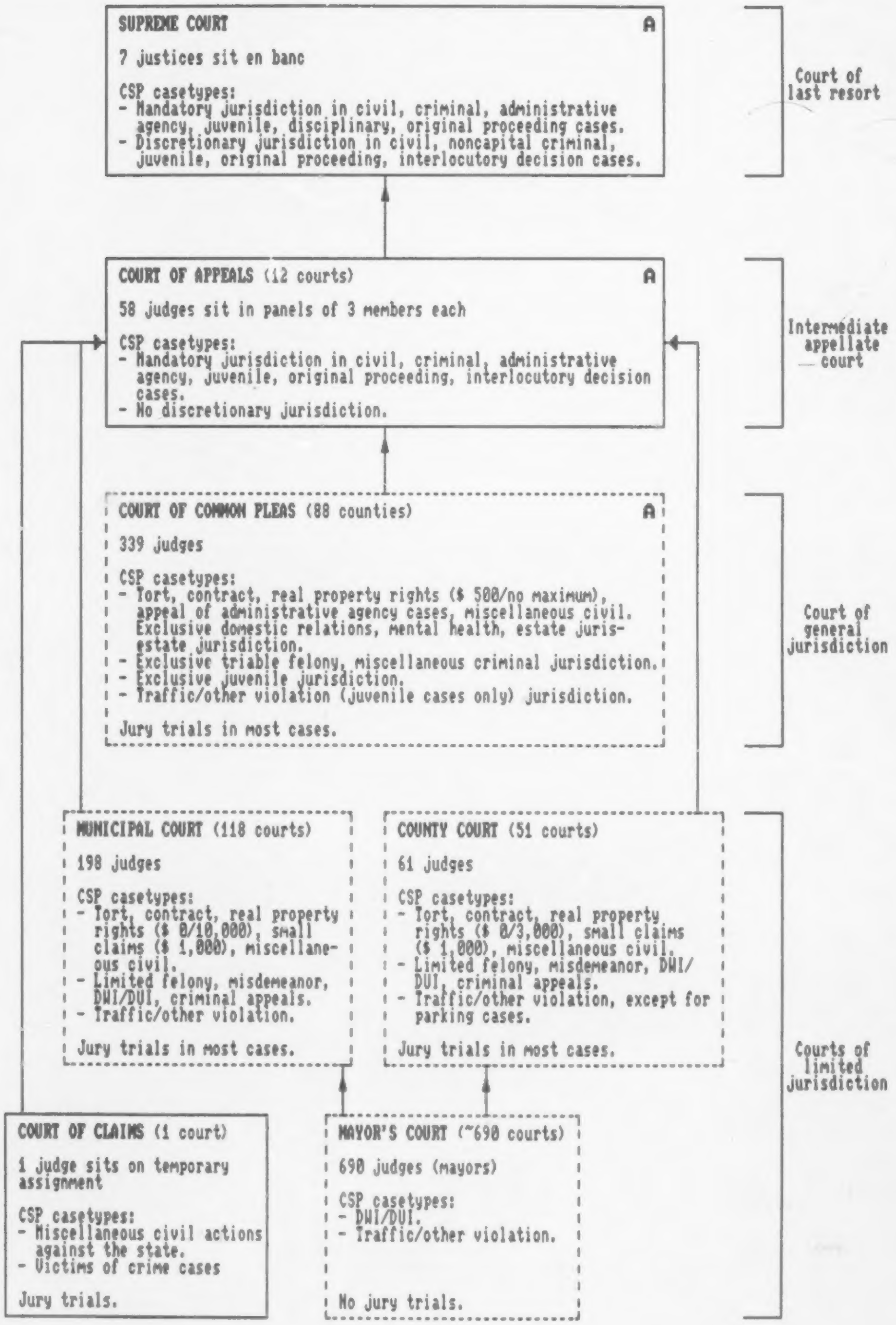
No jury trials.

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

* Effective July 1, 1987 through January 1, 1990, a temporary Court of Appeals is established to exercise appellate and original jurisdiction as delegated by the Supreme Court.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

OHIO COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A
A
A

SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS (12 courts)

58 judges sit in panels of 3 members each

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (88 counties)

339 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 500/no maximum), appeal of administrative agency cases, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, mental health, estate jurisestate jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation (juvenile cases only) jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT (118 courts)

198 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 1,000), miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in most cases.

COUNTY COURT (51 courts)

61 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/3,000), small claims ($ 1,000), miscellaneous civil.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Traffic/other violation, except for parking cases.

Jury trials in most cases.

COURT OF CLAIMS (1 court)

1 judge sits on temporary assignment

CSP casetypes:
- Miscellaneous civil actions against the state.
- Victims of crime cases

Jury trials.

MAYOR'S COURT (~690 courts)

690 judges (mayors)

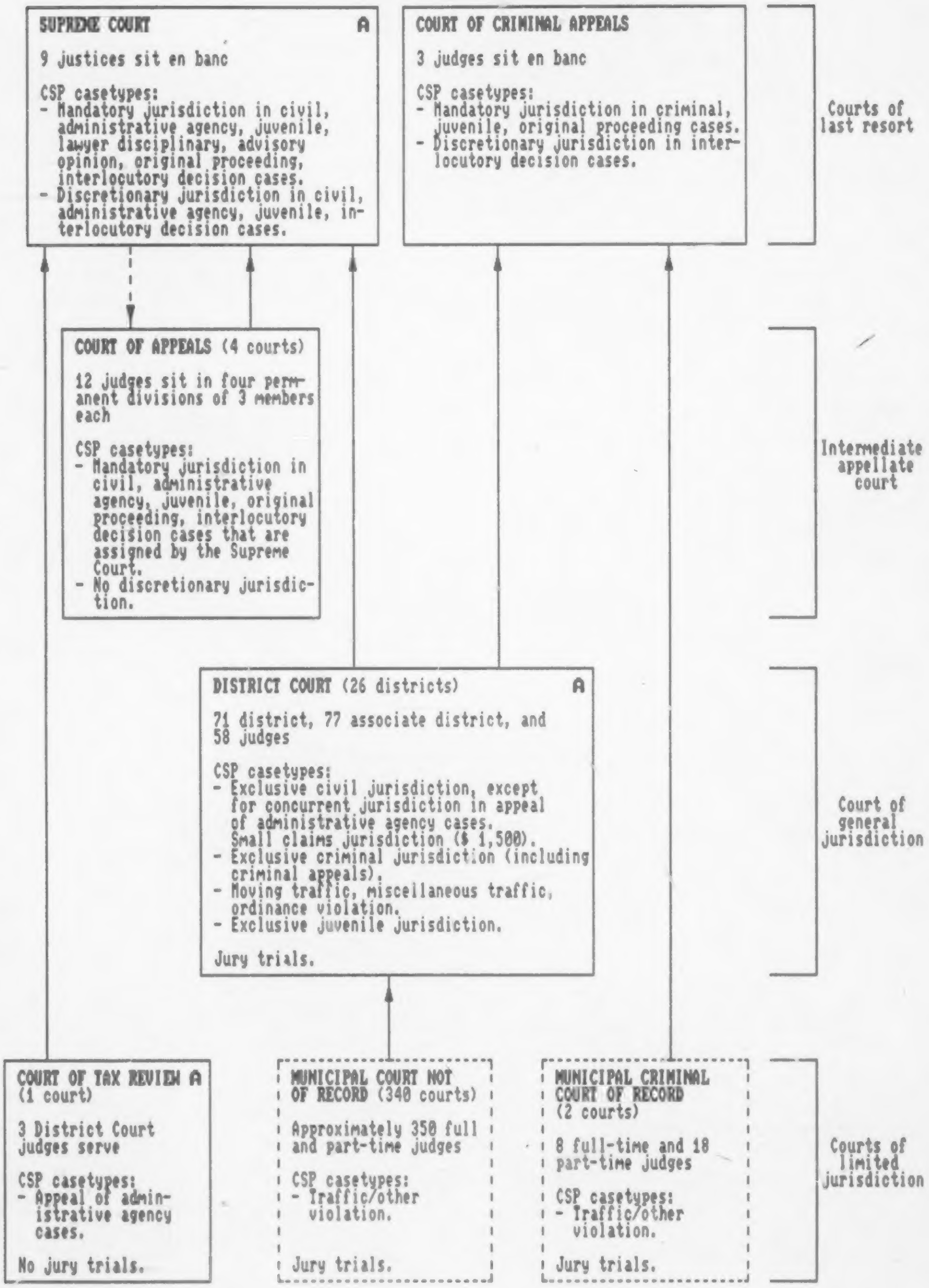
CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

6

OKLAHOMA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

9 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

3 judges sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Courts of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (4 courts)

12 judges sit in four permanent divisions of 3 members each

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases that are assigned by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

Intermediate appellate court

DISTRICT COURT (26 districts) A

71 district, 77 associate district, and 58 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction, except for concurrent jurisdiction in appeal of administrative agency cases. Small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,500).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

COURT OF TAX REVIEW A (1 court)

3 District Court judges serve

CSP casetypes:
- Appeal of administrative agency cases.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT NOT OF RECORD (340 courts)

Approximately 350 full and part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL CRIMINAL COURT OF RECORD (2 courts)

8 full-time and 18 part-time judges

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

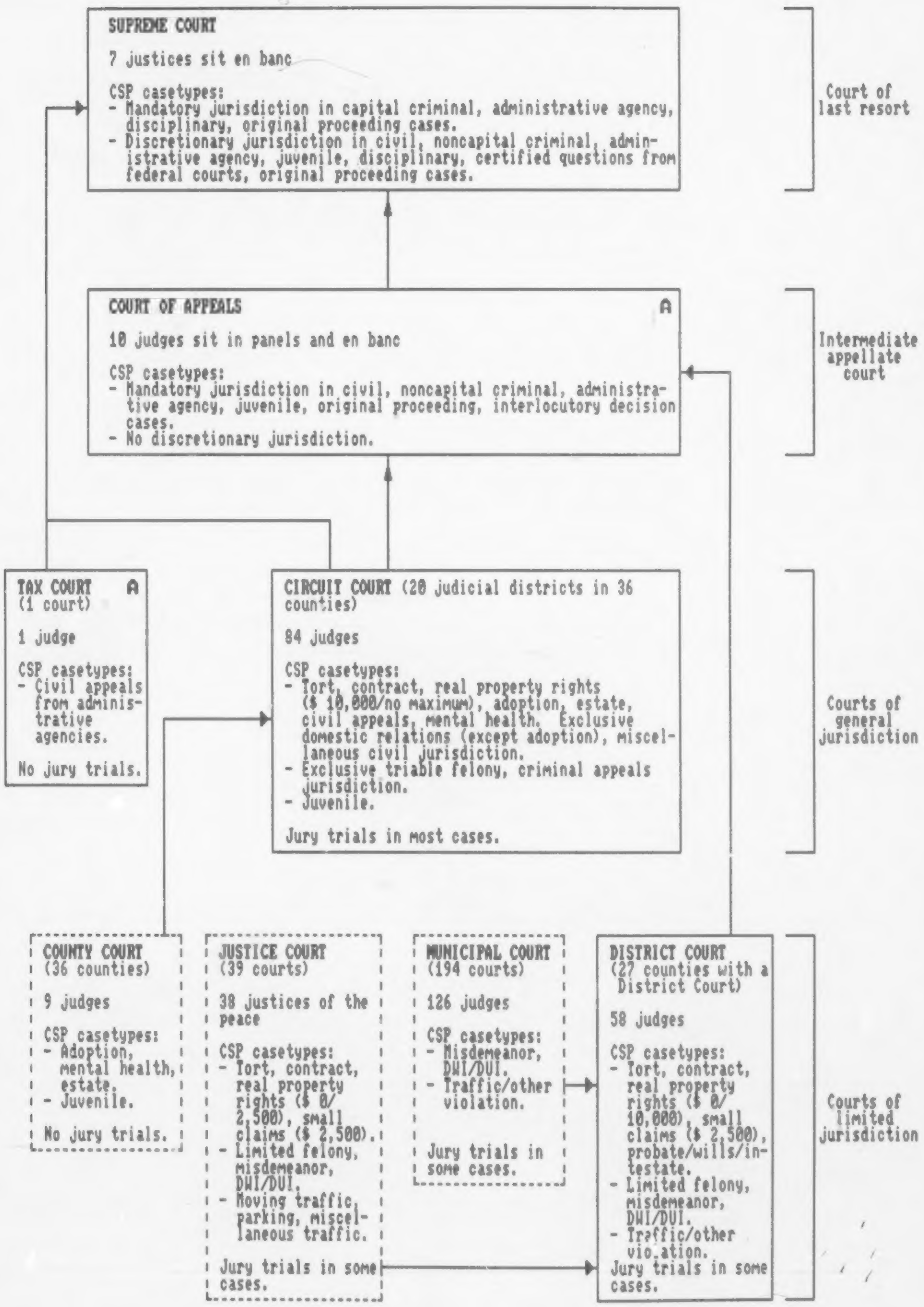
Courts of limited jurisdiction

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

Oklahoma has a Workers' Compensation Court which hears complaints that are handled exclusively by administrative agencies in other states.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

OREGON COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Courts of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF APPEALS A

10 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

TAX COURT A
(1 court)

1 judge

CSP casetypes:
- Civil appeals from administrative agencies.

No jury trials.

CIRCUIT COURT (20 judicial districts in 36 counties)

84 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 10,000/no maximum), adoption, estate, civil appeals, mental health. Exclusive domestic relations (except adoption), miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials in most cases.

COUNTY COURT
(36 counties)

9 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Adoption, mental health, estate.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE COURT
(39 courts)

38 justices of the peace

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 2,500).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials in some cases.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(194 courts)

126 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some cases.

DISTRICT COURT
(27 counties with a District Court)

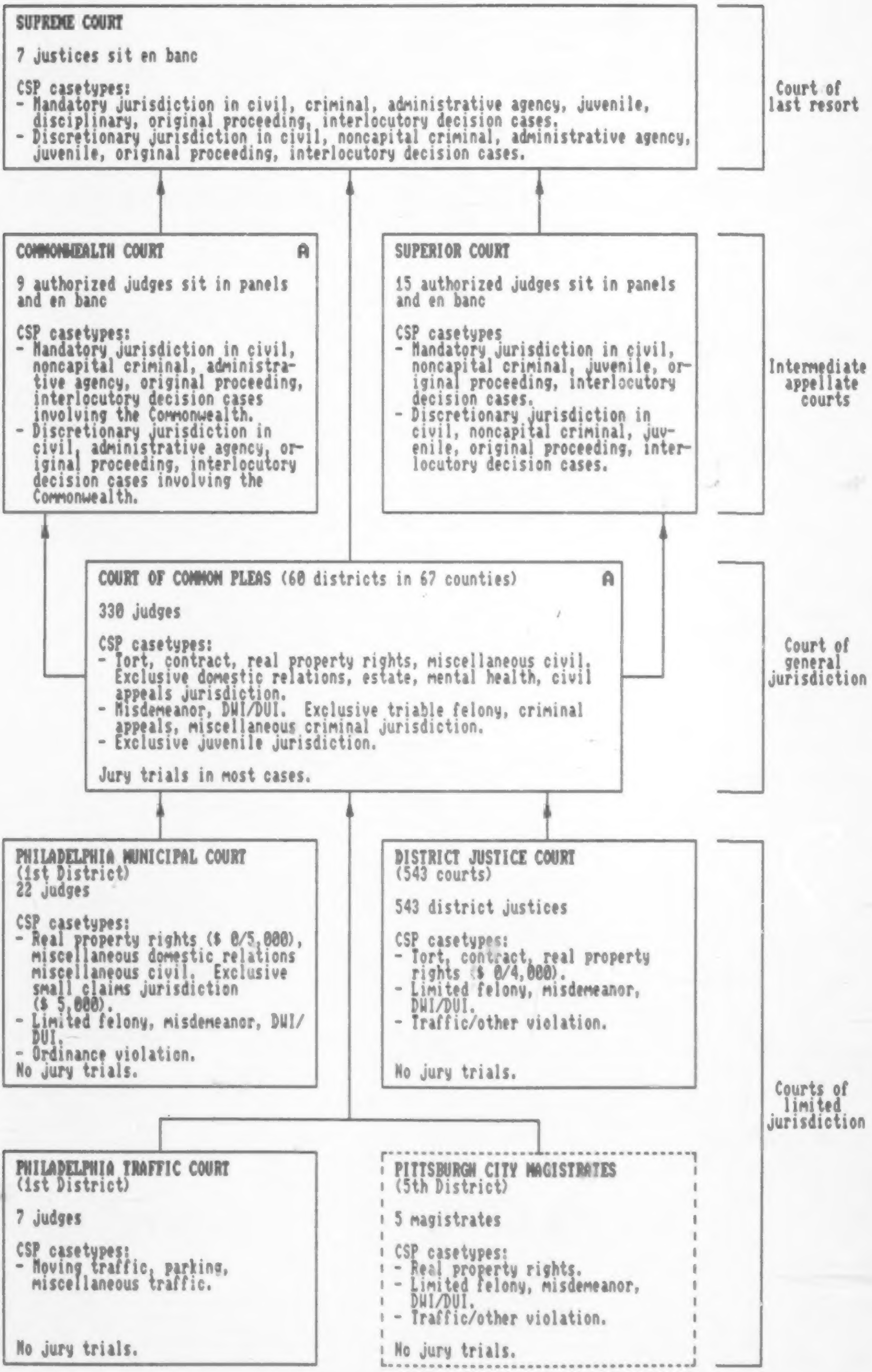
58 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 2,500), probate/wills/intestate.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some cases.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

PENNSYLVANIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COMMONWEALTH COURT A

9 authorized judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases involving the Commonwealth.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases involving the Commonwealth.

SUPERIOR COURT

15 authorized judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate courts

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS (60 districts in 67 counties) A

330 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

PHILADELPHIA MUNICIPAL COURT
(1st District)
22 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights ($ 0/5,000), miscellaneous domestic relations miscellaneous civil. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 5,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Ordinance violation.

No jury trials.

DISTRICT JUSTICE COURT
(543 courts)

543 district justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/4,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

PHILADELPHIA TRAFFIC COURT
(1st District)

7 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

No jury trials.

PITTSBURGH CITY MAGISTRATES
(5th District)

5 magistrates

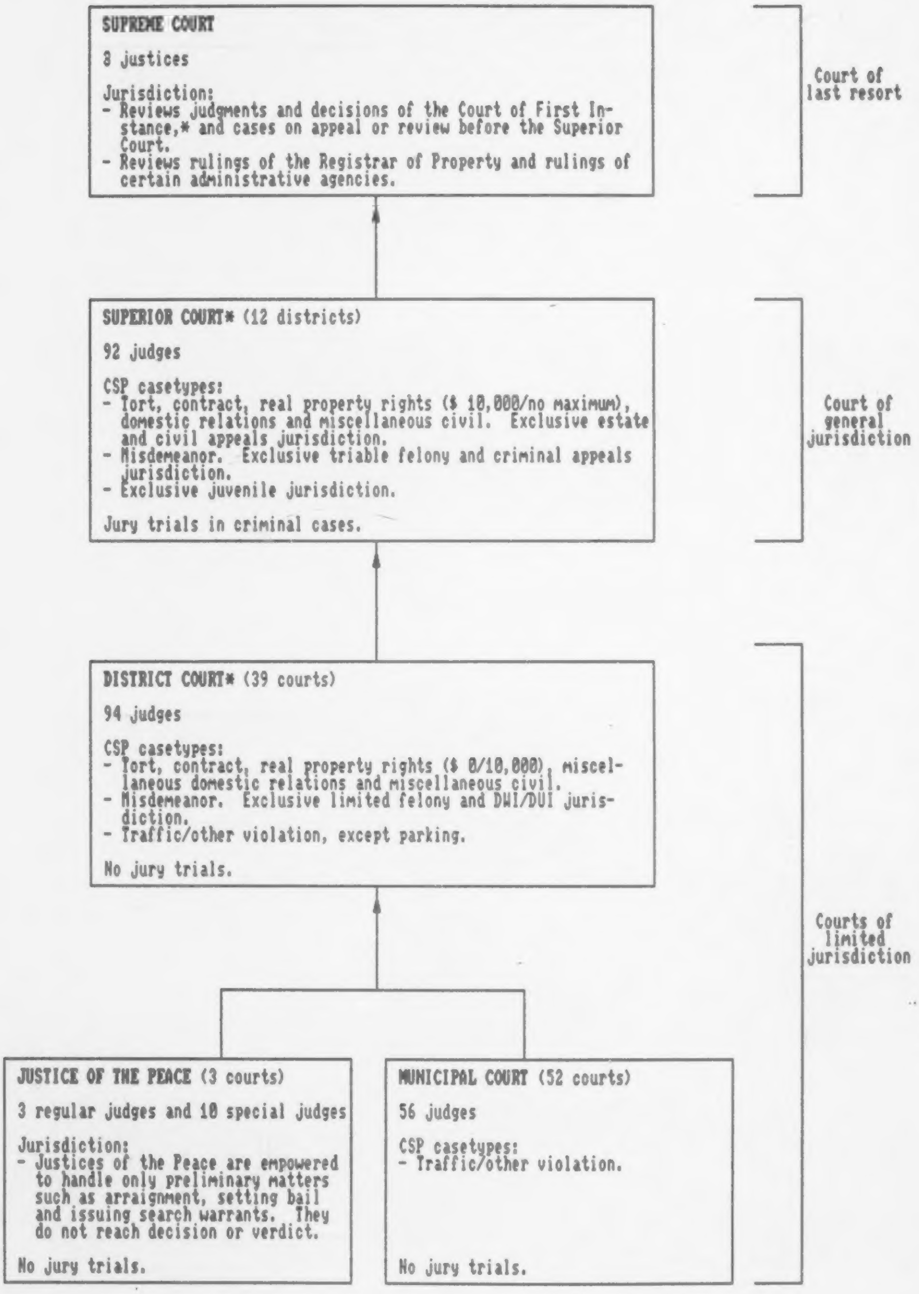
CSP casetypes:
- Real property rights.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

PUERTO RICO COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

8 justices

Jurisdiction:
- Reviews judgments and decisions of the Court of First Instance,* and cases on appeal or review before the Superior Court.
- Reviews rulings of the Registrar of Property and rulings of certain administrative agencies.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT* (12 districts)

92 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 10,000/no maximum), domestic relations and miscellaneous civil. Exclusive estate and civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony and criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in criminal cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT* (39 courts)

94 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), miscellaneous domestic relations and miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive limited felony and DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation, except parking.

No jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (3 courts)

3 regular judges and 10 special judges

Jurisdiction:
- Justices of the Peace are empowered to handle only preliminary matters such as arraignment, setting bail and issuing search warrants. They do not reach decision or verdict.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (52 courts)

56 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Traffic/other violation.

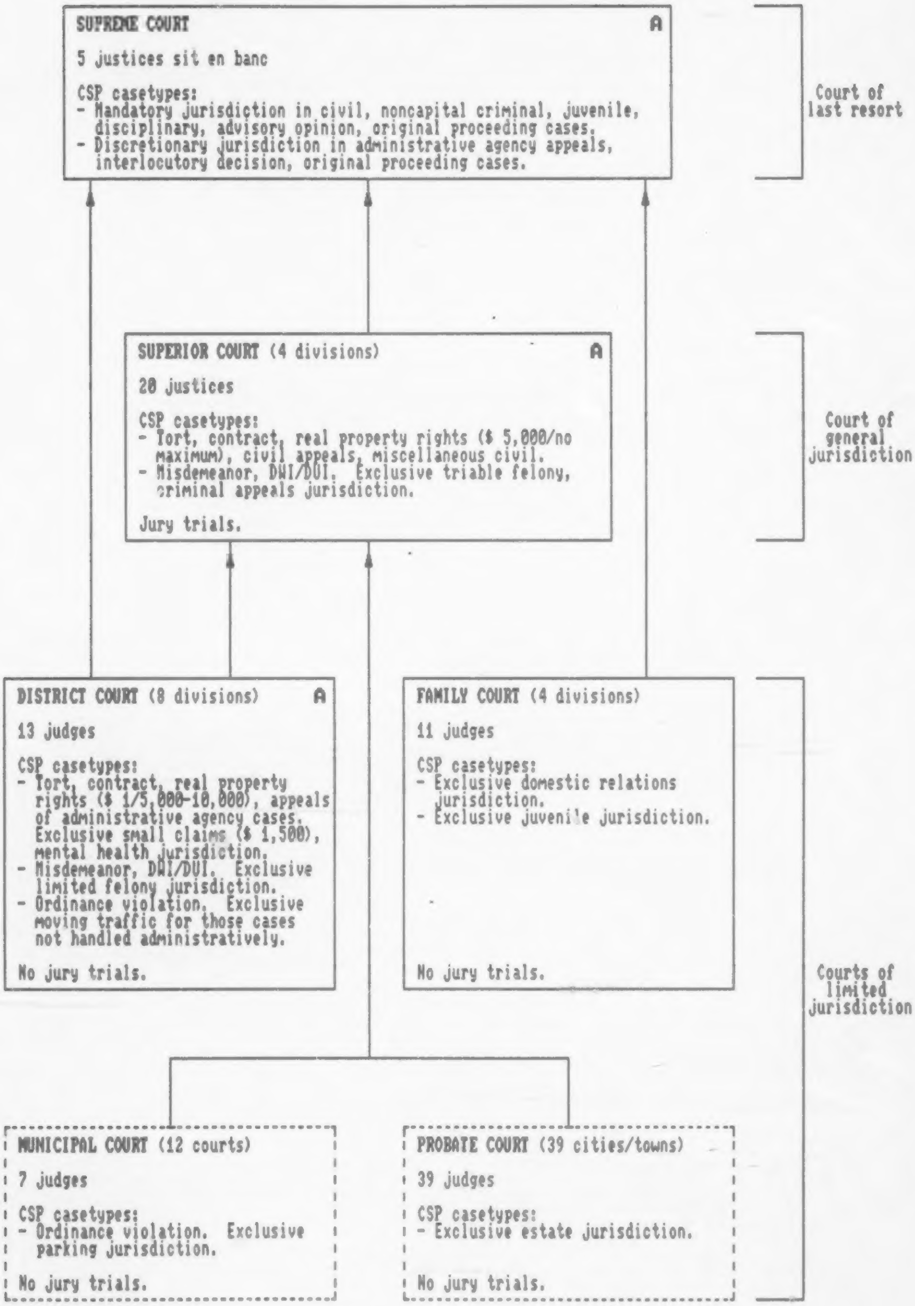
No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

* The Court of First Instance consists of two divisions: the Superior Court and the District Court.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

RHODE ISLAND COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, advisory opinion, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency appeals, interlocutory decision, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (4 divisions) A

20 justices

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 5,000/no maximum), civil appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (8 divisions) A

13 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1/5,000-10,000), appeals of administrative agency cases. Exclusive small claims ($ 1,500), mental health jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive moving traffic for those cases not handled administratively.

No jury trials.

FAMILY COURT (4 divisions)

11 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (12 courts)

7 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive parking jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (39 cities/towns)

39 judges

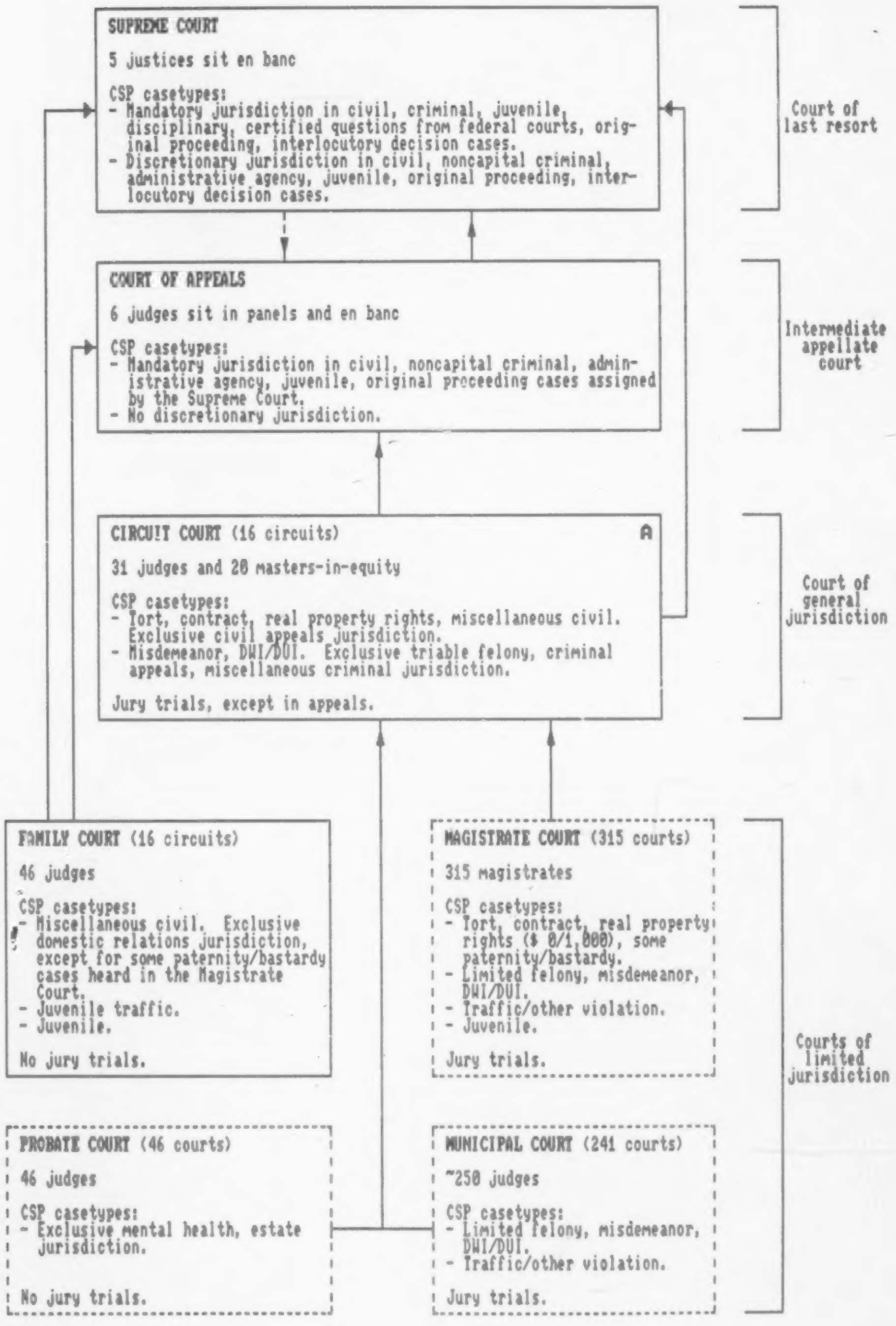
CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

SOUTH CAROLINA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS

6 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases assigned by the Supreme Court.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

CIRCUIT COURT (16 circuits) A

31 judges and 20 masters-in-equity

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals, miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in appeals.

FAMILY COURT (16 circuits)

46 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations jurisdiction, except for some paternity/bastardy cases heard in the Magistrate Court.
- Juvenile traffic.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

MAGISTRATE COURT (315 courts)

315 magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/1,000), some paternity/bastardy.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (46 courts)

46 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive mental health, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (241 courts)

~250 judges

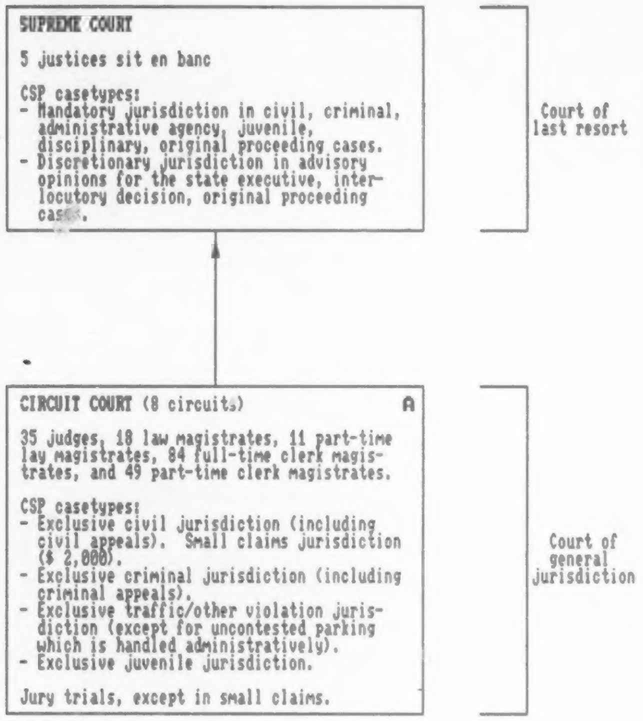
CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials.

---- Indicates assignment of cases.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

SOUTH DAKOTA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in advisory opinions for the state executive, interlocutory decision, original proceeding cases.

Court of last resort

CIRCUIT COURT (8 circuits) A

35 judges, 18 law magistrates, 11 part-time lay magistrates, 84 full-time clerk magistrates, and 49 part-time clerk magistrates.

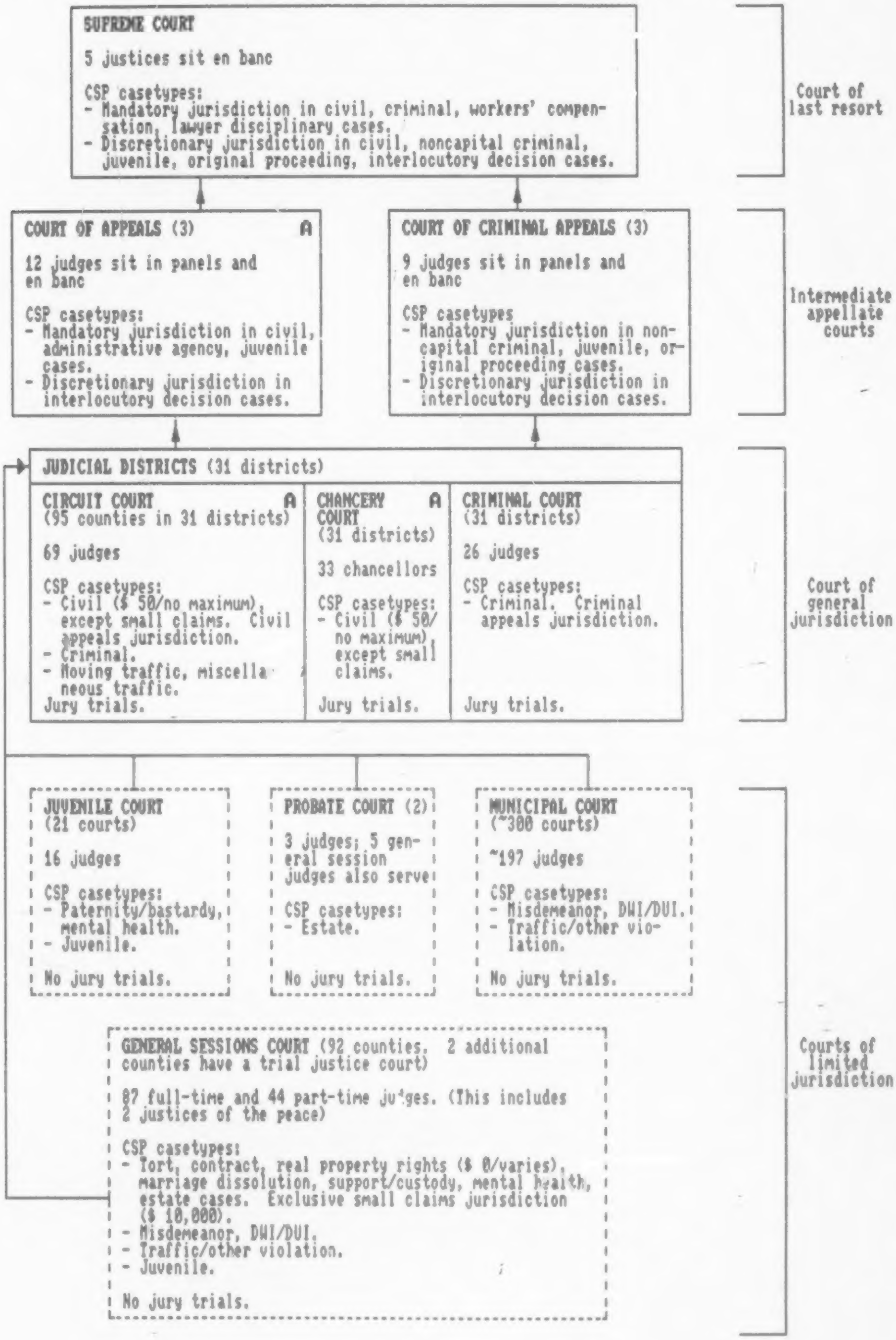
CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Exclusive criminal jurisdiction (including criminal appeals).
- Exclusive traffic/other violation jurisdiction (except for uncontested parking which is handled administratively).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

Court of general jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

TENNESSEE COURT STRUCTURE, 1987


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate courts
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, workers' compensation, lawyer disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS (3) A

12 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS (3)

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

JUDICIAL DISTRICTS (31 districts)

CIRCUIT COURT A
(95 counties in 31 districts)

69 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Civil ($ 50/no maximum), except small claims. Civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Criminal.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

CHANCERY COURT A
(31 districts)

33 chancellors

CSP casetypes:
- Civil ($ 50/ no maximum), except small claims.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL COURT
(31 districts)

26 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Criminal. Criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

JUVENILE COURT
(21 courts)

16 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Paternity/bastardy, mental health.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

PROBATE COURT (2)

3 judges; 5 general session judges also serve

CSP casetypes:
- Estate.

No jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT
(~300 courts)

~197 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

GENERAL SESSIONS COURT (92 counties. 2 additional counties have a trial justice court)

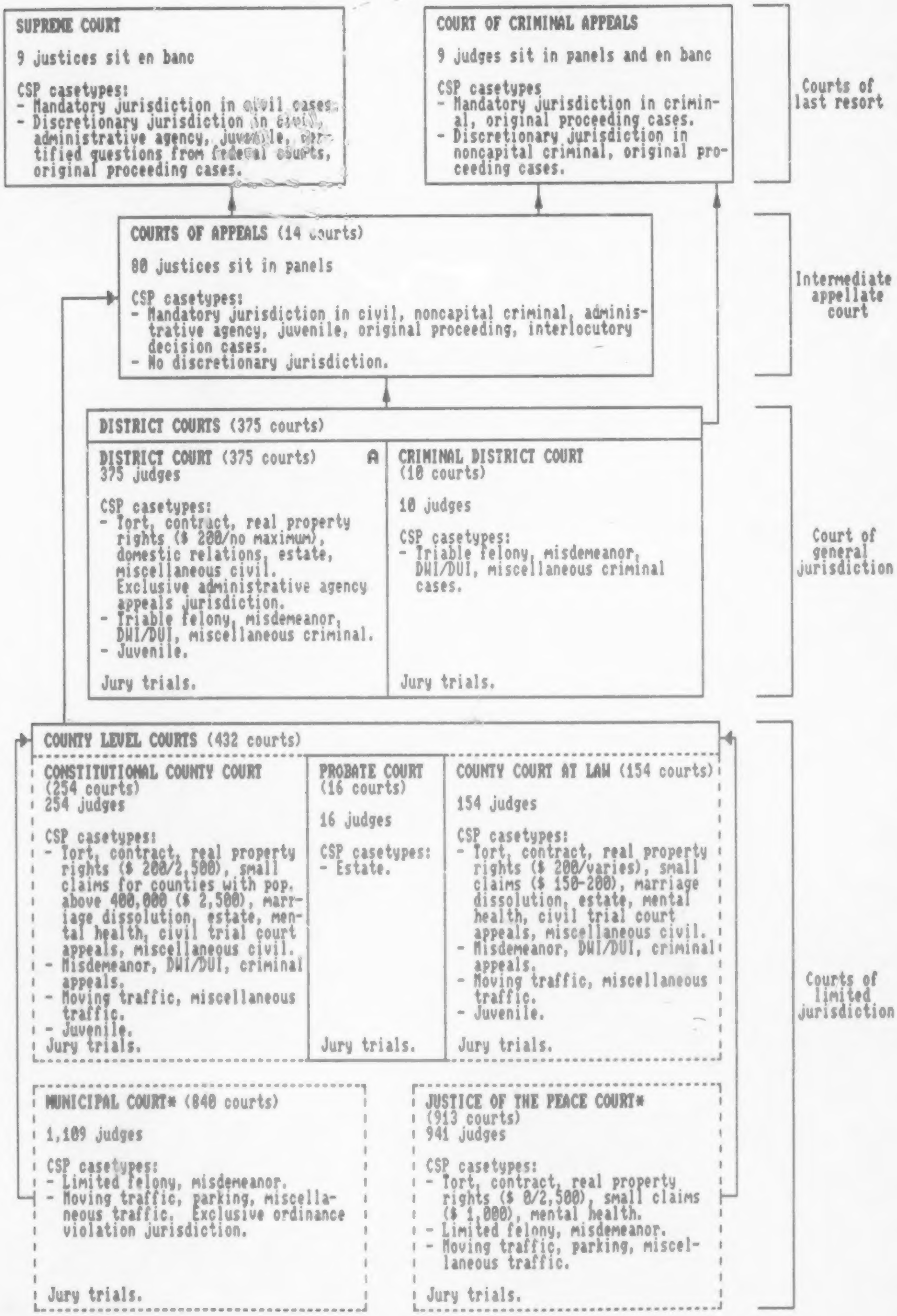
87 full-time and 44 part-time judges. (This includes 2 justices of the peace)

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/varies), marriage dissolution, support/custody, mental health, estate cases. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 10,000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.
- Juvenile.

No jury trials.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

TEXAS COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



Courts of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A

SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS

9 judges sit in panels and en banc

CSP casetypes
- Mandatory jurisdiction in criminal, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in noncapital criminal, original proceeding cases.

COURTS OF APPEALS (14 courts)

80 justices sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- No discretionary jurisdiction.

DISTRICT COURTS (375 courts)

DISTRICT COURT (375 courts)
375 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 200/no maximum), domestic relations, estate, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive administrative agency appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT
(10 courts)

10 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Triable felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, miscellaneous criminal cases.

Jury trials.

COUNTY LEVEL COURTS (432 courts)

CONSTITUTIONAL COUNTY COURT
(254 courts)
254 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 200/2,500), small claims for counties with pop. above 400,000 ($ 2,500), marriage dissolution, estate, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

PROBATE COURT
(16 courts)

16 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Estate.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT AT LAW (154 courts)

154 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 200/varies), small claims ($ 150-200), marriage dissolution, estate, mental health, civil trial court appeals, miscellaneous civil.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI, criminal appeals.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.
- Juvenile.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT* (840 courts)

1,109 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT*
(913 courts)
941 judges

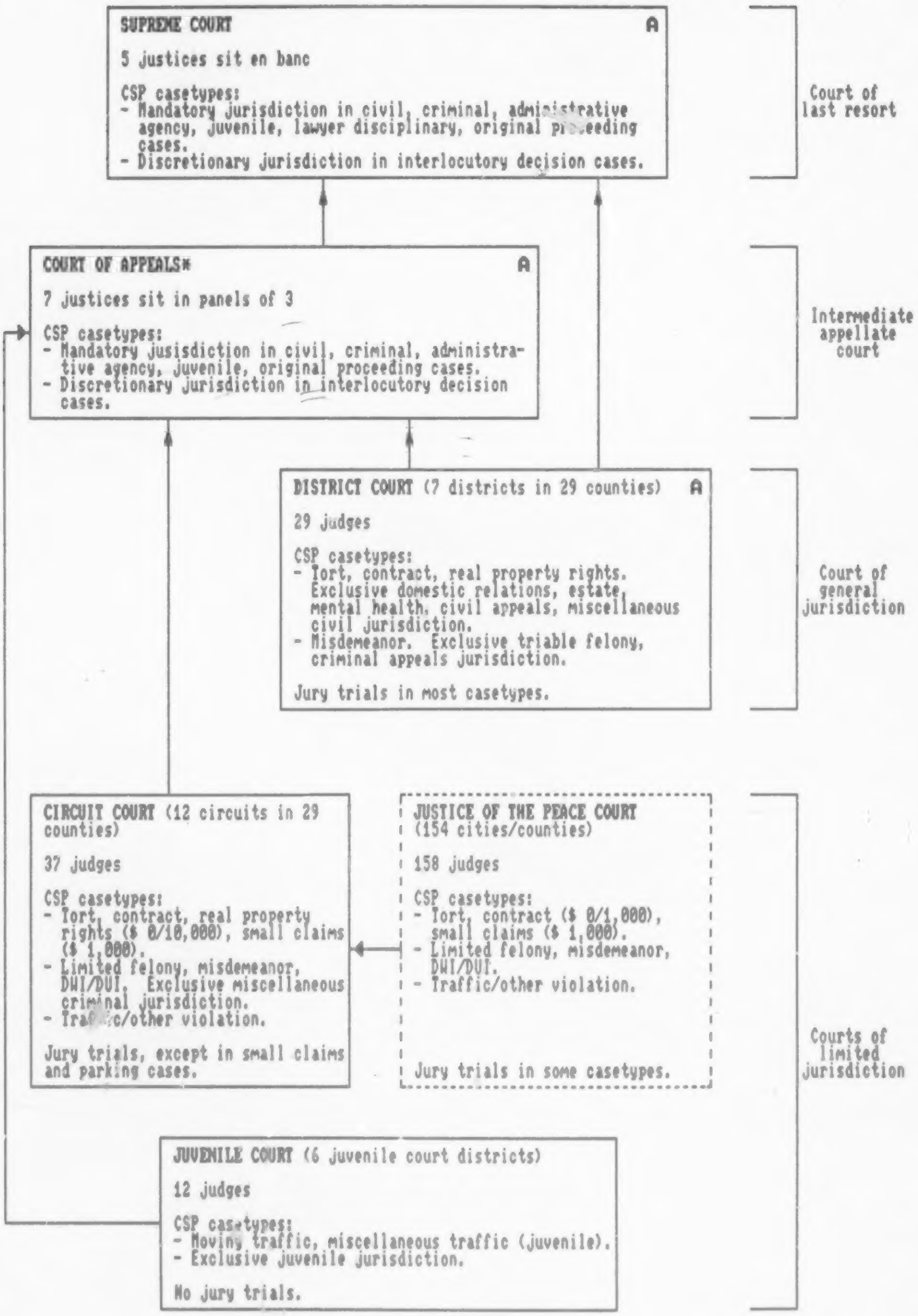
CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/2,500), small claims ($ 1,000), mental health.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

* Some Municipal and Justice of the Peace Courts may appeal to the District Court.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

UTAH COURT STRUCTURE, 1987


Court of last resort
Intermediate appellate court
Court of general jurisdiction
Courts of limited jurisdiction
A
A
A

SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

COURT OF APPEALS*

7 justices sit in panels of 3

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jusisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

DISTRICT COURT (7 districts in 29 counties)

29 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights. Exclusive domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most casetypes.

CIRCUIT COURT (12 circuits in 29 counties)

37 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/10,000), small claims ($ 1,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive miscellaneous criminal jurisdiction.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except in small claims and parking cases.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT (154 cities/counties)

158 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/1,000), small claims ($ 1,000).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

Jury trials in some casetypes.

JUVENILE COURT (6 juvenile court districts)

12 judges

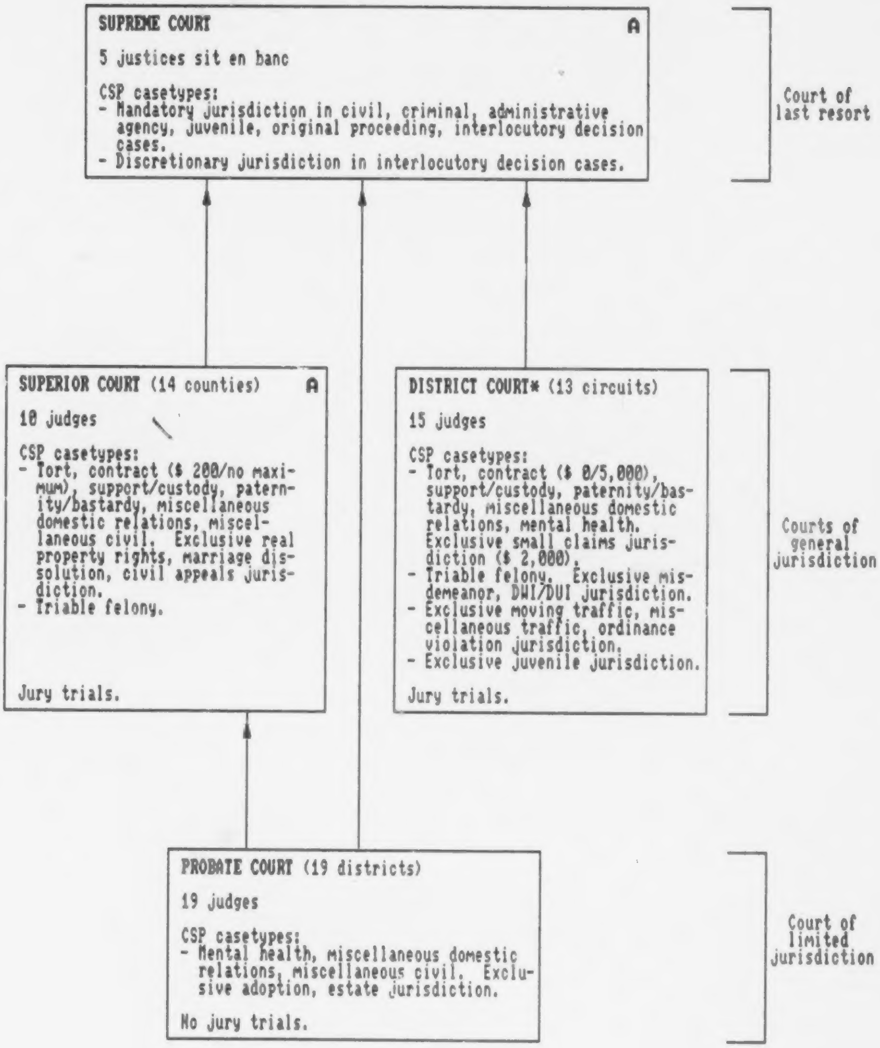
CSP casetypes:
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic (juvenile).
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

* The Court of Appeals became operational on Feb. 1, 1987.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

VERMONT COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

SUPERIOR COURT (14 counties) A

10 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 200/no maximum), support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive real property rights, marriage dissolution, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Triable felony.

Jury trials.

DISTRICT COURT* (13 circuits)

15 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/5,000), support/custody, paternity/bastardy, miscellaneous domestic relations, mental health. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 2,000).
- Triable felony. Exclusive misdemeanor, DWI/DUI jurisdiction.
- Exclusive moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic, ordinance violation jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Courts of general jurisdiction

PROBATE COURT (19 districts)

19 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Mental health, miscellaneous domestic relations, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive adoption, estate jurisdiction.

No jury trials.

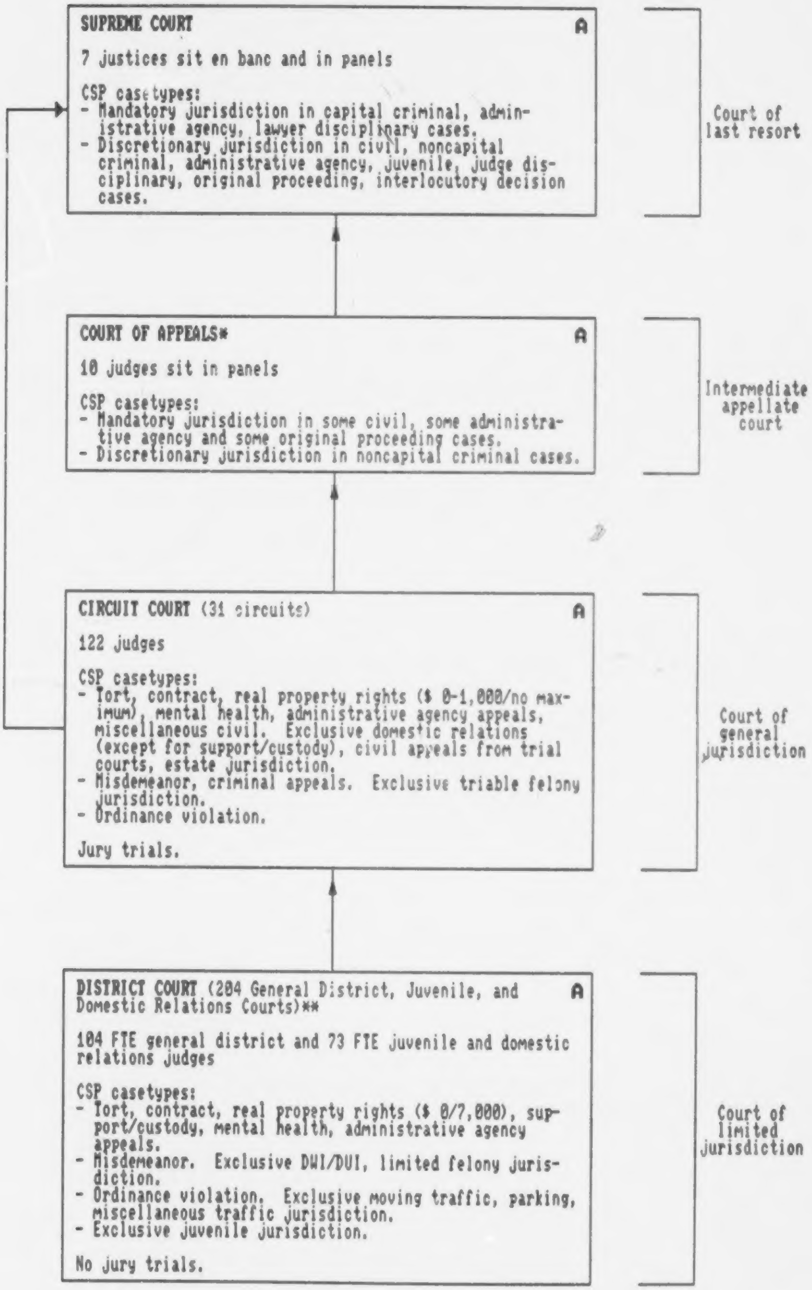
Court of limited jurisdiction

---

* The District Court, although created as a court of limited jurisdiction, has steadily increased its scope to include almost all criminal matters. In 1983, the District Court was granted jurisdiction over all criminal cases, and has become the court of general jurisdiction for most criminal matters. A small number of appeals go to the Superior Court.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

VIRGINIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT A

7 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in capital criminal, administrative agency, lawyer disciplinary cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, judge disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS* A

10 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in some civil, some administrative agency and some original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in noncapital criminal cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (31 circuits) A

122 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0-1,000/no maximum), mental health, administrative agency appeals, miscellaneous civil. Exclusive domestic relations (except for support/custody), civil appeals from trial courts, estate jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, criminal appeals. Exclusive triable felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

DISTRICT COURT (204 General District, Juvenile, and Domestic Relations Courts)** A

104 FTE general district and 73 FTE juvenile and domestic relations judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/7,000), support/custody, mental health, administrative agency appeals.
- Misdemeanor. Exclusive DWI/DUI, limited felony jurisdiction.
- Ordinance violation. Exclusive moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

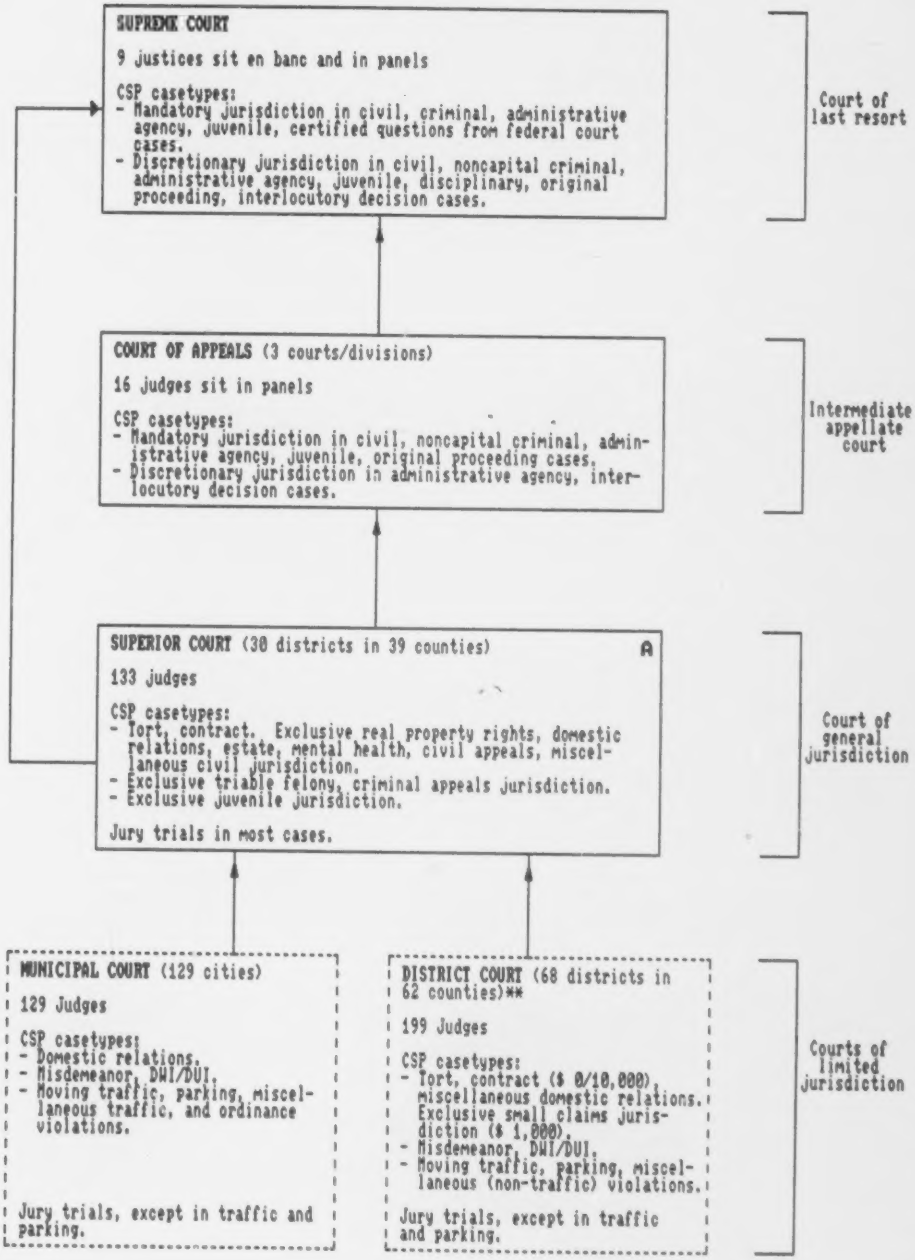
No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

* The Virginia Court of Appeals became operational on January 1, 1985.
** The District Court is referred to as the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court when hearing juvenile and domestic relations cases, and as the General District Court for the balance of the cases.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

WASHINGTON COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

9 justices sit en banc and in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, certified questions from federal court cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (3 courts/divisions)

16 judges sit in panels

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in administrative agency, interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

SUPERIOR COURT (30 districts in 39 counties) A

133 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract. Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations, estate, mental health, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (129 cities)

129 Judges

CSP casetypes:
- Domestic relations.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic, and ordinance violations.

Jury trials, except in traffic and parking.

DISTRICT COURT (68 districts in 62 counties)**

199 Judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/10,000), miscellaneous domestic relations. Exclusive small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous (non-traffic) violations.

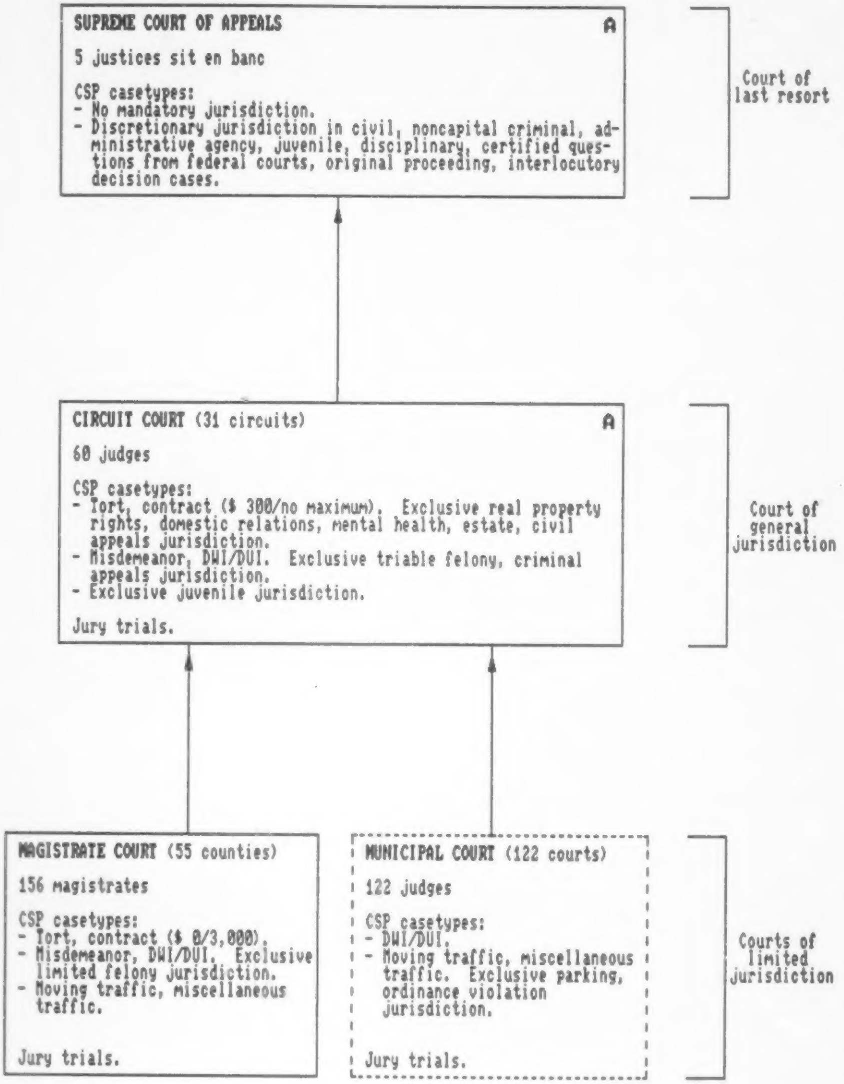
Jury trials, except in traffic and parking.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

** District Court provides services to municipalities which do not have a Municipal Court.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

WEST VIRGINIA COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS A

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, noncapital criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, interlocutory decision cases.

Court of last resort

CIRCUIT COURT (31 circuits) A

60 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 300/no maximum). Exclusive real property rights, domestic relations, mental health, estate, civil appeals jurisdiction.
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Court of general jurisdiction

MAGISTRATE COURT (55 counties)

156 magistrates

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract ($ 0/3,000).
- Misdemeanor, DWI/DUI. Exclusive limited felony jurisdiction.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic.

Jury trials.

MUNICIPAL COURT (122 courts)

122 judges

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive parking, ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

Courts of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

WISCONSIN COURT STRUCTURE, 1987

SUPREME COURT

7 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- No mandatory jurisdiction.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding, juvenile cases.

Court of last resort

COURT OF APPEALS (4 districts)

13 judges sit in 3-judge districts (one 4-judge district)

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in interlocutory decision cases.

Intermediate appellate court

CIRCUIT COURT (69 circuits) A

197 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Exclusive civil jurisdiction (including civil appeals). Small claims jurisdiction ($ 1,000).
- DWI/DUI. Exclusive triable felony, misdemeanor jurisdiction.
- Contested: moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Ordinance violations if no Municipal Court.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials in most cases.

Court of general jurisdiction

MUNICIPAL COURT (203 municipalities)

205 judges

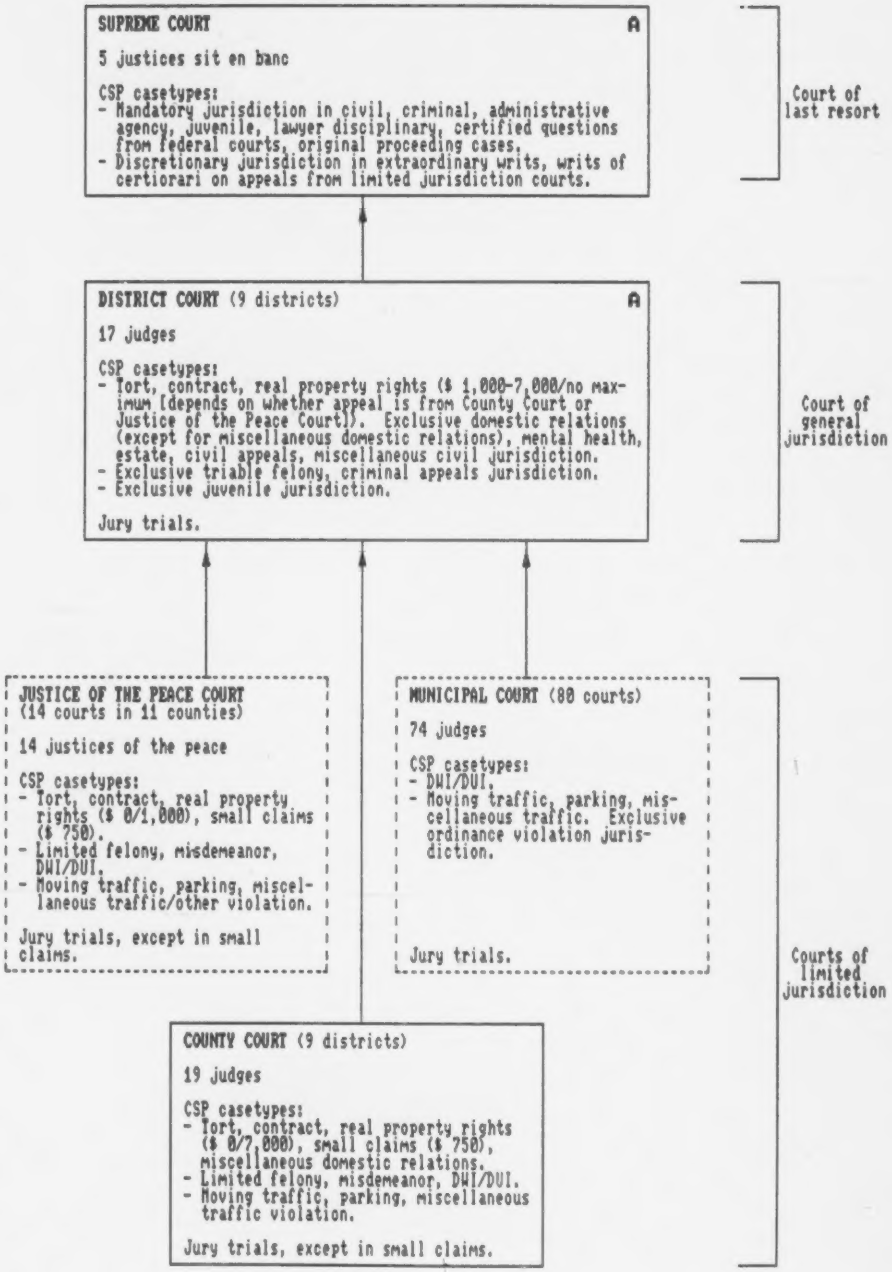
CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Traffic/other violation.

No jury trials.

Court of limited jurisdiction

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

WYOMING COURT STRUCTURE, 1987



SUPREME COURT

5 justices sit en banc

CSP casetypes:
- Mandatory jurisdiction in civil, criminal, administrative agency, juvenile, lawyer disciplinary, certified questions from federal courts, original proceeding cases.
- Discretionary jurisdiction in extraordinary writs, writs of certiorari on appeals from limited jurisdiction courts.

DISTRICT COURT (9 districts)

17 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 1,000-7,000/no maximum [depends on whether appeal is from County Court or Justice of the Peace Court]). Exclusive domestic relations (except for miscellaneous domestic relations), mental health, estate, civil appeals, miscellaneous civil jurisdiction.
- Exclusive triable felony, criminal appeals jurisdiction.
- Exclusive juvenile jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT
(14 courts in 11 counties)

14 justices of the peace

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/1,000), small claims ($ 750).
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic/other violation.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

MUNICIPAL COURT (80 courts)

74 judges

CSP casetypes:
- DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic. Exclusive ordinance violation jurisdiction.

Jury trials.

COUNTY COURT (9 districts)

19 judges

CSP casetypes:
- Tort, contract, real property rights ($ 0/7,000), small claims ($ 750), miscellaneous domestic relations.
- Limited felony, misdemeanor, DWI/DUI.
- Moving traffic, parking, miscellaneous traffic violation.

Jury trials, except in small claims.

NOTE: The text at the beginning of this section contains important information relevant to this chart.

Part IV

Figures

FIGURE A: Reporting Periods for All State Courts, 1987

State	Reporting periods January 1, 1987 to December 31, 1987	July 1, 1986 to June 30, 1987	September 1, 1986 to August 31, 1987	October 1, 1986 to September 30, 1987
Alabama				X
Alaska		X		
Arizona	X			
Arkansas		X		
California		X		
Colorado		X		
Connecticut		X		
Delaware		X		
District of Columbia	X			
Florida	X			
Georgia	X Court of Appeals Juvenile Court Probate Court Superior Court	X Magistrate Court	X Supreme Court (Aug. 1, 1986 - July 31, 1987)	
Hawaii		X		
Idaho	X			
Illinois	X			
Indiana	X			
Iowa	X			
Kansas		X		
Kentucky		X		
Louisiana	X			
Maine	X			
Maryland		X		
Massachusetts		X Trial Courts	X Supreme Judicial Court Appeals Court	
Michigan	X Trial Courts Court of Appeals	X Supreme Court		
Minnesota	X			
Mississippi	X Supreme Court			
Missouri		X		
Montana	X Supreme Court District Court	X Justice of the Peace City Court Municipal Court		
Nebraska	X District Court County Court Separate Juvenile	X Workers' Compensation Court	X Supreme Court	
Nevada	X			
New Hampshire	X Supreme Court District Court Municipal Court Superior Court	X Probate Court		

(continued on next page)

FIGURE A: Reporting periods for all state courts, 1987. (continued)

	Reporting periods			
State	January 1, 1987 to December 31, 1987	July 1, 1986 to June 30, 1987	September 1, 1986 to August 31, 1987	October 1, 1986 to September 30, 1987
New Jersey		X		
New Mexico		X		
New York	X			
North Carolina		X		
North Dakota	X			
Ohio	X			
Oklahoma		X		
Oregon	X			
Pennsylvania	X			
Puerto Rico		X		
Rhode Island	X Trial Courts			X Supreme Court
South Carolina	X			
South Dakota		X		
Tennessee	X			
Texas			X	
Utah	X Supreme Court	X Trial Courts		
Vermont		X		
Virginia	X			
Washington	X			
West Virginia	X			
Wisconsin	X			
Wyoming	X			

Note: Unless otherwise indicated, an "X" means that all of the trial and appellate courts in that state report data for the time period indicated by the column.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1987 State Trial and Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE B: Methods of Counting Cases in State Appellate Courts, 1987

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
ALABAMA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Civil Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
ALASKA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
ARIZONA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X-CRIM	0	0	X*	X	0	0	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X-CRIM*	X*	0	X*	X (except industrial cases & civil petition for special action)	X (only industrial cases & civil petition for special action)	0	X	0
ARKANSAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	X	0
CALIFORNIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	X	0	0	X (death penalty only)	COLR (if petition for review of IAC)	X	0	0
Courts of Appeal	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
COLORADO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
CONNECTICUT:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if motion to open)	0	0
Appellate Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if motion to open or if remand by COLR)	0	0
DELAWARE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
FLORIDA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	IAC	X	0	0
District Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	(Adm.Agy. and Workers Comp.)	X	0	0
GEORGIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	0	X (if new appeal)
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
HAWAII:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	X (original proceeding)	0	0	X
Intermediate Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	(when assigned by COLR)	0	0	0	0	X
						0	0	0	0	X
IDAHO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X (appeal from trial court)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	0	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	(when assigned by COLR)	0	0	0	X	0
ILLINOIS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Appellate Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
INDIANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	(any first filing, notice, record, brief or motion)	X (only death penalty and/or sentence over 10 years)	COLR (if petition for transfer from IAC)	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	(any first filing)	X (precipe)	0	0	0	X

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate court, 1987. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
IOWA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X (if appeal from trial court)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	X (if appeal from trial court)	0	X	0	0
KANSAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X*	X	0	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	X*	X	0	0	0	X
KENTUCKY:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X*	X	X (COLR if review is sought from IAC)	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	X	0	X	0	X	0	0
LOUISIANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
MAINE:										
Supreme Judicial Court Sitting as Law Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if remanded)	0	X (if new appeal)
MARYLAND:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	0	X	0	0	X (if direct appeal)	X (IAC if appeal from IAC)	0	0	X
Court of Special Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
MASSACHUSETTS:										
Supreme Judicial Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Appeals Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	X (if originally dismissed as premature)	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
MICHIGAN:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X (if remanded w/jurisdiction retained)	0	X (if new appeal)
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	X
MINNESOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
MISSISSIPPI:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X (file with both, eff. 1/1/87)	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
MISSOURI:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
MONTANA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X (notice plus any other filing: fee, record, motion)	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
NEBRASKA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
NEVADA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
NEW HAMPSHIRE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X (if remanded & jurisdiction retained)	0	X

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
NEW JERSEY:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	(COLR if direct appeal, otherwise with IAC)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Appellate Division of Superior Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
NEW MEXICO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	X (within 30 days of notice)	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	X (within 30 days of notice)	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
NEW YORK:										
Court of Appeals	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
Appellate Divisions of Supreme Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X (if remit for specific issues)	0	X (if remand for new trial)
Appellate Terms of Supreme Court	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
NORTH CAROLINA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X (if direct appeal)	X (COLR if appeal from IAC)	X (if petition to rehear)	X	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	X	0	0	X	0	X (if reconsidering dismissal)	X	0
NORTH DAKOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
OHIO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	IAC	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X*	0	X	0	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
OKLAHOMA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	0	0	0	X	0	X*	0	X*
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	0	X (notice plus transcript)	0	0	X	0	X*	0	X*
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	0	COLR	X*	0	X*
OREGON:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
PENNSYLVANIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X (direct appeal only)	0	0	X (discretionary certiorari granted)	X*	X*	X (if reinstated to enforce order)	X (if new appeal)	0
Superior Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Commonwealth Court	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	X (Admin. Agency)	0	0	X
PUERTO RICO:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X-CR	X-CV	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
RHODE ISLAND:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
SOUTH CAROLINA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	X	0	0	X	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	0	0	0	TRANSFER	X	0	X	0	0
SOUTH DAKOTA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
TENNESSEE:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X (Court of Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Criminal Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	0	X (Court of Criminal Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
TEXAS:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Criminal Appeals	COLR	0	0	0	any first filing	X	X (Court of Crim. Appeals)	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
Court of Appeals	IAC	X (Civil only)	0	0	0	X	0	IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY		
UTAH:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X*	0	0	0	X (court from which appealed)	X (Admin. Agency)	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	X	0
VERMONT:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (if dismissed & reinstated)	0	X (if after final decision or if statistical period has ended)
VIRGINIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
WASHINGTON:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	X	0	0

(continued on next page)

FIGURE B: Methods of counting cases in state appellate courts, 1987. (continued)

		Case counted at:				Case filed with:		Does the court count reinstated/reopened cases in its count of new filings?		
State/Court name:	Court type	Notice of appeal	Filing of the trial record	Record plus briefs	Other point	Trial court	Appellate court	No	Rarely	Yes, or frequently as new case
WEST VIRGINIA:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	X	0	X (Counted as new filings as of 8/86)	0	0
WISCONSIN:										
Supreme Court	COLR	0	0	0	(When accepted by court)	0	X	0	0	X
Court of Appeals	IAC	X	0	0	0	X	0	0	0	X
WYOMING:										
Supreme Court	COLR	X	0	0	0	0	X	0	0	X

ADM. AGY. = Administrative agency cases only.
CR = Criminal cases only.
CV = Civil cases only.
DP = Death penalty cases only.
COLR = Court of last resort.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.

*FOOTNOTES:

Arizona--Supreme Court: Civil cases: A case is counted when the fee is paid within 30 days after trial record is filed.

Arizona--Court of Appeals: Civil cases: A case is counted when the fee is paid within 30 days after trial record is filed. For juvenile/industrial/habeas corpus cases, a case is counted at receipt of notice, or at receipt of the trial record.

California--Supreme Court: Cases are counted at the notice of appeal for discretionary review cases from the IAC.

Kansas--Cases are counted at the docketing which occurs 21 days after a notice of appeal is filed in the trial court.

Kentucky--Cases are counted at either the filing of the brief or request for intermediate relief.

Ohio--Court of Appeals: The clerk of the trial court is also the clerk of the Court of Appeals.

Oklahoma--The notice of appeal refers to the petition in error. The courts do not count reinstated cases as new filings, but do count any subsequent appeal of an earlier decided case as a new filing.

Pennsylvania--Supreme Court: Mandatory cases are filed with the trial court, and discretionary cases are filed with the appellate court.

Utah--Supreme Court: Mandatory appeals are no longer in effect as of 1/1/86; an intermediate court of appeals was established on 1/1/87.

Source: State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, as updated and verified for 1987 by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE C: Dollar Amount Jurisdiction for Original Tort, Contract, Real Property Rights, and Small Claims Filings in State Trial Courts, 1987

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
ALABAMA:							
Circuit Court	G	$1,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	$1,000/ $5,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Optional
ALASKA:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$25,000	$5,000	No	Yes	No
ARIZONA:							
Superior Court	G	$500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$500	No	Yes	No
ARKANSAS:							
Circuit Court	G	$100/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	$500/ $1,000 (contract only)	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $300 (contract and real property)	$300	No	Yes	No
City Court, Police Court	L	--	0/ $300 (contract and real property)	--	--	--	--
CALIFORNIA:							
Superior Court	G	$25,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Municipal Court	L	--	0/$25,000	$1,500	No	Yes	No
Justice Court	L	--	0/$25,000	$1,500	No	Yes	No
COLORADO:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Water Court	G	0/No maximum (only real property)	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/ $5,000	$2,000	No	Yes	No
CONNECTICUT:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
DELAWARE:							
Court of Chancery	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Court of Common Pleas	L	--	0/$15,000	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
Alderman's Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum (no minimum for real property)	--	$2,000	Yes	Yes	Yes

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

		Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property	Small claims			
State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Minimum/maximum	Minimum/maximum	Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
FLORIDA:							
Circuit Court	G	$5,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	$2,500/ $5,000	$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
GEORGIA:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	No max	Yes	No	Yes
State Court	L	0/No maximum (No real property)	--	No max	Yes	Yes	Yes
Civil Court	L	--	0/ $7,500-25,000	$3,000-$25,000	No	Yes	Yes
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $2,500 (No real property)	$2,500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $7,500	$7,500	No	Yes	Yes
HAWAII:							
Circuit Court	G	$1,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000 (No maximum in summary possession or ejectment)	$2,500 (Except in residential security deposit cases.	No	Yes	Yes
IDAHO:							
District Court:	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
(Magistrates Division)	L	--	0/$10,000	$2,000	No	Yes	No
ILLINOIS:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
INDIANA:							
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
County Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	--	0/$20,000	--	--	--	--
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	--	--	$3,000	No	Yes	Yes
City Court	L	--	0/ $500-$2,500 (No real property)	--	--	--	--
IOWA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
KANSAS:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,000	No	Yes	No

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary proce-dures	Lawyers per-mitted
KENTUCKY:							
Circuit Court	G	$2,500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
LOUISIANA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
City Court, Parish Court	L	--	0/ $5,000	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $1,200	$1,200	No	Yes	Yes
MAINE:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$30,000	$1,400	No	Yes	Yes
MARYLAND:							
Circuit Court	G	$2,500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000 (No maximum real property)	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
MASSACHUSETTS:							
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:							
Superior Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Housing Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	No	No	Yes
District Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
MICHIGAN:							
Circuit Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	No
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $1,500	$1,500	No	Yes	No
MINNESOTA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
MISSISSIPPI:		(NO DATA AVAILABLE)					
MISSOURI:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
(Associates Division)	L	--	0/ $5,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
MONTANA:							
District Court	G	$50/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court and Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $3,500	$1,500	No	Yes	No
City Court	L	--	0/ $300	$300	No	Yes	No

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
NEBRASKA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/$10,000 ($5,000 for real property)	$1,500	No	Yes	No
NEVADA:							
District Court	G	$1,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Justice Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	--	--	--	--
NEW HAMPSHIRE:							
Superior Court	G	$500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $1,500	$1,500 (only landlord-tenant, and small claims)	No	Yes	Yes
NEW JERSEY:							
Superior Court (Law Division and Chancery Division)	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
(Law Division, Special Civil Part)	L	--	0/ $5,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
NEW MEXICO:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $2,000	--	--	--	--
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	L	--	0/ $5,000	--	--	--	--
NEW YORK:							
Supreme Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	G	--	0/$25,000	--	--	--	--
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	--	0/$25,000	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
City Court	L	--	0/ $500-$15,000	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
District Court	L	--	0/$15,000	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
Court of Claims	L	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	--	0/ $3,000	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
NORTH CAROLINA:							
Superior Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
NORTH DAKOTA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$2,000	No	Yes	Varies

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
OHIO:							
Court of Common Pleas	G	$500/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/ $3,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
Municipal Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
OKLAHOMA:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,500	Yes	Yes	Yes
OREGON:							
Circuit Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$2,500	No	Yes	No
Justice Court	L	--	0/ $2,500	$2,500	No	Yes	No
PENNSYLVANIA:							
Court of Common Pleas	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Justice Court	L	--	0/ $4,000	--	--	--	--
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	--	0/ $5,000 (only real property)	$5,000	No	Yes	Yes
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	--	0/No maximum (only real property)	--	--	--	--
PUERTO RICO:							
Superior Court	G	$10,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000	--	--	--	--
RHODE ISLAND:							
Superior Court	G	$5,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	$1,000/ $5,000-$10,000	$1,500	No	Yes	Yes
SOUTH CAROLINA:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $1,000 (no max. in landlord-tenant	--	--	--	--
SOUTH DAKOTA:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$2,000	No	Yes	Yes
TENNESSEE:							
Circuit Court, Chancery Court	G	$50/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
General Sessions Court	L	0/No maximum (Forcible entry, detainer, and in actions to recover personal property	0/$10,000 (All civil actions in counties with population under 700,000) 0/$15,000 (All civil actions in counties with population over 700,000)	$10,000	No	Yes	Yes

(continued on next page)

FIGURE C: Dollar amount jurisdiction for original tort, contract, real property rights, and small claims filings in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Unlimited dollar amount torts, contracts, real property Minimum/maximum	Limited dollar amount torts, contracts real property Minimum/maximum	Small claims			
				Maximum dollar amount	Jury trials	Summary procedures	Lawyers permitted
TEXAS:							
District Court	G	$200/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court	L	--	$200/varies	$200	--	--	--
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0 / $2,500 (No max. in real property)	$1,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
UTAH:							
District Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Circuit Court	L	--	0/$10,000	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $1,000	$1,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
VERMONT:							
Superior Court	G	$200/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	G	--	0/ $5,000	$2,000	Yes	Yes	Yes
VIRGINIA:							
Circuit Court	G	$1,000/No maximum 0/No maximum (real property)	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/ $7,000	--	--	--	--
WASHINGTON:							
Superior Court	G	0/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
District Court	L	--	0/$10,000 (tort) 0/ $7,500 (Contract. No real property)	$1,000	No	Yes	Yes
WEST VIRGINIA:							
Circuit Court	G	$300/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
Magistrate Court	L	--	0/ $3,000 (No real property)	--	--	--	--
WISCONSIN:							
Circuit Court	G	0/No maximum	--	$1,000	Yes	No	Yes
WYOMING:							
District Court	G	$1,000/No maximum	--	--	--	--	--
County Court	L	--	0/ $7,000	$750	No	Yes	Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	--	0/ $1,000	$750	No	Yes	Yes

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.
-- = Data element is inapplicable.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1987 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE D: Criminal Case Unit of Count Used by the State Trial Courts, 1987

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
			One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
ALABAMA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/Indictment		X			X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X			(No data reported)		
ALASKA:								
Superior Court	G	Indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
ARIZONA:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint		Varies with prosecutor*				
Municipal Court	L	Complaint		Varies with prosecutor*				
ARKANSAS:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
City Court, Police Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X			
CALIFORNIA:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
COLORADO:								
District Court	G	Complaint	X					X
County Court	L	Complaint/summons	X					X
CONNECTICUT:								
Superior Court	G	Information	X				(Varies among local police departments)	
DELAWARE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
Family Court	L	Complaint/petition	X				X	
Justice of the Peace Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X			
Court of Common Pleas	L	Complaint	X		X			
Municipal Court of Wilmington	L	Complaint	X		X			
Alderman's Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:								
Superior Court	G	Complaint/information/indictment	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by the state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
FLORIDA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X			(Prosecutor decides)		
County Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
GEORGIA:								
Superior Court	G	Indictment/accusation		X			X	
State Court	L	Accusation		X			X	
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Probate Court	L	Accusation	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	No data reported						
Civil Court	L	No data reported						
County Recorder's Court	L	No data reported						
Municipal Courts and the City Court of Atlanta	L	No data reported						
HAWAII:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X				X (Most serious charge)	
District Court	L	First appearance/information	X		X			
IDAHO:								
District Court	G	Information	X					X
(Magistrates Division)	L	Complaint	X					X
ILLINOIS:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X	
INDIANA:								
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X (may not be consistent)	
County Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
City Court and Town Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X (may not be consistent)	
IOWA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
KANSAS:								
District Court	G	First appearance	X				X	
KENTUCKY:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint/citation	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by the state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
			One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
LOUISIANA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies			Varies		
City Court and Parish Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X	
MAINE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X	
MARYLAND:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
District Court	L	Citation/information	X				X	
MASSACHUSETTS:								
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:								
Superior Court Dept.	G	Information/indictment	X					X
Housing Court Dept.	L	Complaint	X					X
District Court Dept.	L	Complaint	X					X
Boston Municipal Ct.	L	Complaint	X					X
MICHIGAN:								
Circuit Court	G	Information	X				X	
District Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
MINNESOTA:								
District Court	G	Complaint	X				X	
MISSISSIPPI:		DATA ARE UNAVAILABLE						
MISSOURI:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
(Associate Division)	L	Complaint	X				X	
MONTANA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X			X	
Justice of Peace Court and Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
City Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
NEBRASKA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	(not consistently observed statewide)
County Court	L	Information/complaint	X				X	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by the state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

			Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
NEVADA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
Justice Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	Varies		Varies, depending on prosecutor			
NEW HAMPSHIRE:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
District Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
NEW JERSEY:								
Superior Court (Law Division)	G	Accusation/indictment	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
NEW MEXICO:								
District Court	G	Indictment/information	X				X	(May vary with prosecutor)
Magistrate Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
NEW YORK:								
Supreme Court	G	Defendant/Indictment	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
County Court	L	Defendant/Indictment	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
Criminal Court of the City of New York	L	Docket number	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
District Court and City Court	L	Docket number	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
Town Court and Village Justice Court	L	Complaint	X		Varies depending on prosecutor			
NORTH CAROLINA:								
Superior Court	G	Indictment (filing of appeal from District Court on misdemeanor conviction)	X				X	
District Court	L	Warrant/summons (includes citations, Magistrates order, misdemeanor statement of charges)	X			X (2 max)		
NORTH DAKOTA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X (may vary)	
County Court	L	Complaint/information	X				Varies	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
OHIO:								
Court of Common Pleas	G	Arraignment	X				X	
County Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
Mayor's Court	L	No data reported						

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by the state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
			One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
OKLAHOMA:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
OREGON:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint/indictment	X			(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
District Court	L	Complaint/indictment	X			(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
Justice Court	L	Complaint	X			(Number of charges not consistent statewide)		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
PENNSYLVANIA:								
Court of Common Pleas	G	Information/docket transcript	X				X	
District Justice Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Philadelphia Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
Pittsburgh City Magistrates Court	L	Complaint	X				X	
PUERTO RICO:								
Superior Court	G	Accusation	X		X			
District Court	L	Charge	X		X			
RHODE ISLAND:								
Superior Court	G	Information/indictment	X					X
District Court	L	Complaint	X					X
SOUTH CAROLINA:								
Circuit Court	G	Indictment	X				X	
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Warrant/summons	X				X	
SOUTH DAKOTA:								
Circuit Court	G	Complaint	X				X	
TENNESSEE:								
Circuit Court and Criminal Court	G	Information/indictment	Not consistent statewide					
General Sessions Court	L	No data reported						
Municipal Court	L	No data reported						
TEXAS:								
District Court and Criminal District Court	G	Information/indictment	X				X	
County-Level Courts	L	Complaint/information	X				X	
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
Justice of the Peace Ct.	L	Complaint	X		X			

(continued on next page)

FIGURE D: Criminal case unit of count used by the state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Point of counting a criminal case	Number of defendants		Contents of charging document			
			One	One or more	Single charge	Single incident (set # of charges per case)	Single incident (unlimited # of charges)	One or more incidents
UTAH:								
District Court	G	Information		X				X
Circuit Court	L	Information/citation	X				X	
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Citation	X				X	
VERMONT:								
District Court	G	Arraignment	X					X
VIRGINIA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment	X		X			
District Court	L	Warrant/summons	X		X			
WASHINGTON:								
Superior Court	G	Information		X			X	
District Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)		
Municipal Court	L	Complaint/citation	X			X (2 max)		
WEST VIRGINIA:								
Circuit Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
Magistrate Court	L	Warrant		X				X
Municipal Court	L	Complaint	X		X			
WISCONSIN:								
Circuit Court	G	Initial appearance	X					X
Municipal Court	L	Citation**	X		X			
WYOMING:								
District Court	G	Information/indictment		X				X
County Court	L	Complaint/information		X				X
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Complaint/information		X				X
Municipal Court	L	Citation/complaint	X		X			

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.

FOOTNOTES

*Arizona--Varies in Limited Jurisdiction courts. Prosecutor can file either long or short form. Long form can involve one or more defendants and/or charges; short form involves one defendant and a single charge.

**Wisconsin--Municipal Court--The court has exclusively civil jurisdiction, but its caseload includes first offense DWI/DUI cases. The State Court Model Statistical Dictionary treats all DWI/DUI cases as a subcategory of criminal cases.

Source: State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, updated and verified for 1987 by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE E: Juvenile Unit of Count Used in State Trial Courts, 1987

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
		At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	
ALABAMA:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
District Court	L		X	X		18
ALASKA:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
ARIZONA:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
ARKANSAS:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
Chancery and Probate Court	G		X	X		18
CALIFORNIA:						
Superior Court	G		X		X	18
COLORADO:						
District Court (includes Denver Juvenile Court)	G		X		X	18
CONNECTICUT:						
Superior Court	G	X			X	16
DELAWARE:						
Family Court	L		X		X	18
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:						
Superior Court	G	X			X	18
FLORIDA:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
GEORGIA:						
Superior Court and Juvenile Court	G		X		X	17
HAWAII:						
Circuit Court	G	X			X	18 (Jurisdiction may be retained until full term of the order expires, provided term does not extend beyond time juvenile reaches age 20)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile unit of count used in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Filings are counted		Disposition counted		Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
		At in-take or referral	At filing of peti-tion or complaint	At adjudi-cation of petition	At dispo-sition of juvenile	
IDAHO:						
District Court	G		X	X		18
ILLINOIS:						
Circuit Court	G		X		X	17 (15 for first degree murder, aggravated criminal sexual assault, and armed robbery with a firearm)
INDIANA:						
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
Probate Court	L		X	X		18
IOWA:						
District Court	G		X	Disposition data are not collected		18
KANSAS:						
District Court	G		X		X	18 14 (for traffic violation) 16 (for fish and game or charged with felony with two prior juvenile adjudications, which would be considered a felony
KENTUCKY:						
District Court	L		X	X		18
LOUISIANA:						
District Court	G		X	X		17
Family Court and Juvenile Court	G		X	X		15 (for first and second degree murder, manslaughter, and aggravated rape) 16 (for armed robbery, aggravated burglary, and aggravated kidnapping)
City Court	L		X	X		
MAINE:						
District Court	L		X		X	18

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile unit of count used in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
MARYLAND:						
Circuit Court	G		X		X	18
District Court	L		X		X	18
MASSACHUSETTS:						
Trial Court of the Commonwealth:	G					
District Court Dept.			X	X		17
Juvenile Court Dept.			X	X		17
MICHIGAN:						
Probate Court	L		X		X	17
MINNESOTA:						
District Court	G		X	X		18
MISSISSIPPI		(Data are unavailable)				
MISSOURI:						
Circuit Court	G		X	X		17
MONTANA:						
District Court	G		X		X	18
NEBRASKA:						
Separate Juvenile Court	L		X		X	18
County Court	L		X		X	18
NEVADA:						
District Court	G	Varies by District		Varies by District		18
NEW HAMPSHIRE:						
District Court	L		X		X	18 16 (for traffic violation) 15 (for some felony charges)
NEW JERSEY:						
Superior Court	G		X		X	18
NEW MEXICO:						
District Court	G		X	X		18
NEW YORK:						
Family Court	L		X		X	16 13 (for murder and kidnapping)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile unit of count used in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Juris-diction	At in-take or referral	At filing of peti-tion or complaint	At adjudi-cation of petition	At dispo-sition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
NORTH CAROLINA:						
District Court	L		X	X		16
NORTH DAKOTA:						
District Court	G		X		X	18
OHIO:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X (warrant)			X	18
OKLAHOMA:						
District Court	G		X (case number)	X		18
OREGON:						
Circuit Court	G		X	(Dispositions are not counted)		18
County Court	L		X			18
PENNSYLVANIA:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X		X		18
PUERTO RICO:						
Superior Court	G		X	X		18
RHODE ISLAND:						
Family Court	L		X	X		18
SOUTH CAROLINA:						
Family Court	L		X	X		17
SOUTH DAKOTA:						
Circuit Court	G	X		X		18
TENNESSEE:						
General Sessions Court	L	X			X	18
Juvenile Court	L	X			X	18
TEXAS:						
District Court	G		X		X	17
County Court at Law, Constitutional County Court, Probate Court	L		X		X	17
UTAH:						
Juvenile Court	L		X		X	18

(continued on next page)

FIGURE E: Juvenile unit of count used in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

		Filings are counted		Disposition counted		
State/Court name:	Juris-diction	At intake or referral	At filing of petition or complaint	At adjudication of petition	At disposition of juvenile	Age at which juvenile jurisdiction transfers to adult courts
VERMONT: District Court	G		X		X	16
VIRGINIA: District Court	L		X		X	18
WASHINGTON: Superior Court	G		X	X (dependency)	X (delinquency)	18
WEST VIRGINIA: Circuit Court	G		X		X	18
WISCONSIN: Circuit Court	G		X	X		18
WYOMING: District Court	G		X	X		19

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.
* = Effective January 20, 1987, juvenile jurisdiction in Arkansas transferred to the Circuit Court (delinquency) and Chancery and Probate Court (dependency) from the County Court.

Source: State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, updated and verified by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE F: State Trial Courts with Incidental Appellate Jurisdiction, 1987

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
ALABAMA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	District, Probate, and Municipal Courts
ALASKA:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	0	de novo	
		0	X	X	on the record	District Court
ARIZONA:						
Superior Court	G	0	X	X	de novo	Justice of the Peace, Municipal Court
ARKANSAS:						
Circuit Court	G	0	X	X	de novo	Court of Common Pleas, County, Municipal, City and Police Courts
CALIFORNIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Justice Court, Municipal Court
COLORADO:						
District Court	G	X	X	0	on the record	County and Municipal Court of Record
		0	0	X	de novo	County and Municipal Court of Record
County Court	L	0	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court Not of Record
CONNECTICUT:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	0	on the record	Probate Court
DELAWARE:						
Superior Court	G	0	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court of Wilmington, Alderman's, and Justice of Peace Courts
		X	X	X	on the record	Superior Court, Court of Common Pleas
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	Merit Protection Board, Administrative Traffic Agency
FLORIDA:						
Circuit Court	G	0	X	0	de novo on the record	County Court
		0	0	X	on the record	County Court

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Adminis-trative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
GEORGIA:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	0	de novo or on the record (varies by county)	Probate Court, Magistrate Court
		0	0	X	de novo or on the record (Probate varies)	Probate Court Municipal Court
HAWAII:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	de novo	
IDAHO:						
District Court	G	X	X (small claims only)	X	de novo	Magistrates Division
		0	X	0	on the record	Magistrates Division
ILLINOIS:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
INDIANA:						
Superior Court and Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	City and Town Courts
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	0	X	0	de novo	Small Claims Court of Marion County
IOWA:						
District Court	G	X	0	0	de novo	
		0	X	X	on the record	Magistrates Division
KANSAS:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court
KENTUCKY:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	District Court
LOUISIANA:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	City and Parish, Justice of the Peace, Mayor's Courts
MAINE:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	District Court, Administrative Courts

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
MARYLAND:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	District Court
MASSACHUSETTS:						
Superior Court Department	G	X	X	0	on the record	Other departments
District Court Department and Boston Municipal Court	G	0	X	X	de novo	Other departments
MICHIGAN:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court
		0	X	0	on the record	District, Municipal and Probate Courts
MINNESOTA:						
District Court	G	0	X	X	de novo	County Court
MISSISSIPPI:			(DATA ARE UNAVAILABLE)			
MISSOURI:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		X	X	0	de novo	Municipal Court, Associate Divisions
MONTANA:						
District Court	G	X	X	0	de novo and on the record	Justice of Peace, Municipal and City Courts
		0	0	X	de novo	
NEBRASKA:						
District Court	G	X	0	0	de novo on the record	
		0	X	X	on the record	County Court
NEVADA:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Justice and Municipal Courts
		0	0	X	de novo	Municipal Court on the record
NEW HAMPSHIRE:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	X	de novo	District and Municipal and Probate Courts

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
NEW JERSEY:						
Superior Court	G	0	0	X	de novo on the record	Municipal Court
NEW MEXICO:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo	Magistrate, Probate, Municipal, and Bernalillo County Metropolitan Courts
NEW YORK:						
County Court	G	0	X	X	on the record	City, Town and Village Justice Courts
NORTH CAROLINA:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	X	de novo	District Court
		X	0	0	de novo on the record	
		X	0	0	on the record	
NORTH DAKOTA:						
District Court	G	X	0	0	Varies	
County Court	L	0	X	X	de novo	Municipal Court
OHIO:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	0	0	de novo and on the record	
County Court	L	0	0	X	de novo	Mayor's Court
Municipal Court	L	0	0	X	de novo	Mayor's Court
Court of Claims	L	X	0	0	de novo	
OKLAHOMA:						
District Court	G	X	0	X	de novo on the record	Municipal Court Not of Record
Court of Tax Review	L	X	0	0	de novo on the record	
OREGON:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	County Court, Municipal Court, (in counties with no District Court) Justice Court, (in counties with no District Court)
Tax Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
PENNSYLVANIA:						
Court of Common Pleas	G	X	X	0	on the record	Limited Jurisdiction Courts
		0	0	X	de novo	

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1987 (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Administrative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
PUERTO RICO:						
Superior Court	G	0	X	X	--	District Court
RHODE ISLAND:						
Superior Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	District, Municipal, and Probate Courts
District Court	L	X	0	0	on the record	
SOUTH CAROLINA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Magistrate, Probate and Municipal Courts
SOUTH DAKOTA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	de novo and on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	Magistrates Division
TENNESSEE:						
Circuit, Chancery and Criminal Courts	G	X	X	X	de novo	General Sessions, Probate, Municipal and Juvenile Courts
TEXAS:						
District Court	G	X	0	0	de novo and de novo on the record	
County-Level Courts	L	0	X	X	de novo	Municipal and Justice of the Peace Courts
UTAH:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	on the record	Limited Jurisdiction Courts
		0	X	X	de novo	Justice of the Peace Court
VERMONT:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	0	de novo on the record	District Court, Probate Court

(continued on next page)

FIGURE F: State trial courts with incidental appellate jurisdiction, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Juris-diction	Adminis-trative Agency Appeals	Trial Court Appeals		Type of Appeal	Source of Trial Court Appeal
			Civil	Criminal		
VIRGINIA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	District Court
District Court	L	X	0	0	de novo	
WASHINGTON:						
Superior Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	District and Municipal Courts
WEST VIRGINIA:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	0	on the record	
		0	X	X	de novo	Magistrate Court
WISCONSIN:						
Circuit Court	G	X	0	X (first offense DWI/DUI only)	de novo	Municipal Court
		0	X	X (first offense DWI/DUI only)	on the record	Municipal Court
WYOMING:						
District Court	G	X	X	X	de novo on the record	Limited Jurisdiction Courts

JURISDICTION CODES:

G = General jurisdiction court.
L = Limited jurisdiction court.
-- = Information not available.

Definitions of types of appeal:

de novo:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court that results in a totally new set of proceedings and a new trial court judgment.
de novo on the record:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court that is based on the record to reach a new trial court judgment.
on the record:	An appeal from one trial court to another trial court in which procedural challenges to the original trial proceedings are claimed, and an evaluation of those challenges are made--there is not a new trial court judgment on the case.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1987 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles and State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE G: Number of Judges/Justices in the State Courts, 1987

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)	General jurisdiction court(s)	Limited jurisdiction court(s)
Alabama	9	8	124	803 (includes 416 mayors)
Alaska	5	3	29	71 (includes 54 magistrates)
Arizona	5	18	101	252 (includes 84 justices of the peace, 56 part-time judges)
Arkansas	7	6	70	329 (includes 61 juvenile referees)
California	7	77	830 (includes 106 commissioners or referees)	755 (includes 123 commissioners or referees)
Colorado	7	10	121	342
Connecticut	7	9	162 (includes the 16 appellate justices/judges	132
Delaware	5	--	17	87 (includes 53 justices of the peace, 1 chief magistrate, 12 aldermen, 1 part-time judge)
District of Columbia	9	--	61	--
Florida	7	46	362	223
Georgia	7	9	188 (includes 40 part-time judges)	1,077 (includes 48 part-time judges, 159 chief magistrates, 273 magistrates)
Hawaii	5	3	32 (includes 8 District Court judges)	59 (includes 37 per diem judges)
Idaho	5	3	103 (includes 62 lawyer and 8 non-lawyer magistrates)	--
Illinois	7	43 (includes 9 supplemental judges)	780	--
Indiana	5	13	206	155
Iowa	9	6	317 (includes 158 part-time magistrates)	--
Kansas	7	10	216 (includes 70 district magistrate judges)	314
Kentucky	7	14	91	125
Louisiana	7	48	192	770 (includes 399 justices of the peace, 300 mayors)
Maine	7	--	16	42 (includes 16 part-time judges)
Maryland	7	13	109	156
Massachusetts	7	10	281	--
Michigan	7	18	197	360
Minnesota	7	13	224*	--*
Mississippi	9	--	79	482 (includes 165 mayors, 191 justices of the peace)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE G: Number of judges/justices in the state courts, 1987. (continued)

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)	General jurisdiction court(s)	Limited jurisdiction court(s)
Missouri	7	32	303	348
Montana	7	--	41	133 (includes 33 justices of the peace that also serve on the city court)
Nebraska	7	--	48	67
Nevada	5	--	35	79
New Hampshire	5	--	25	97
New Jersey	7	28	342	374 (includes 342 part-time judges)
New Mexico	5	7	59	182
New York	7	62	484	2,690 (includes 76 surrogates, 1,985 justices of the peace)
North Carolina	7	12	172 (includes 100 clerks who hear uncontested probate)	788 (includes 637 magistrates of which 100 are part-time)
North Dakota	5		26	175
Ohio	7	58	339	950 (includes 690 mayors)
Oklahoma	12	12	206	379 (includes unknown number of part-time judges)
Oregon	7	10	85	316 (includes 38 justices of the peace)
Pennsylvania	7	24	330	577 (includes 543 justices of the peace and 5 magistrates)
Puerto Rico	8	--	92	163 (includes 10 special judges)
Rhode Island	5	--	20	70
South Carolina	5	6	51 (includes 20 masters-in-equity)	657 (includes 315 magistrates)
South Dakota	5	--	197 (includes 11 part-time lay magistrates, 18 law magistrates, 84 full-time magistrate/clerks, 49 part-time lay magistrate/clerks)	--
Tennessee	5	21	128 (includes 33 chancellors)	347 (includes 44 part-time judges, and 2 justices of the peace
Texas	18	80	385	2,474 (includes 941 justices of the peace)
Utah	5	7	29	207 (includes 158 justices of the peace)
Vermont	5	--	25	19
Virginia	7	10	122	177

(continued on next page)

FIGURE G: Number of judges/justices in the state courts, 1987. (continued)

State:	Court(s) of last resort	Intermediate appellate court(s)	General jurisdiction court(s)	Limited jurisdiction court(s)
Washington	9	16	133	328
West Virginia	5	--	60	278 (includes 156 magistrates)
Wisconsin	7	13	197	205
Wyoming	5	--	17	107 (includes 14 justices of the peace)
Total	355	778	8,859	18,721

-- = The state does not have a court at the indicated level.

NOTE: This table identifies, in parentheses, all individuals who hear cases but are not titled judges/justices. Some states may have given the title "judge" to officials who are called magistrates, justices of the peace, etc., in other states.

*Minnesota--General Jurisdiction and Limited Jurisdiction Courts were consolidated in 1987.

Source: Data were gathered from the 1987 State Trial and Appellate Court statistical profiles.

FIGURE H: Method of Counting Civil Cases in State Trial Courts, 1987

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
ALABAMA:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing		Yes/No	Yes/No
District Court	L	New filing		No	Yes/No
ALASKA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes
District Court	L	Reopened		No	No
ARIZONA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	When transferred in	No	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Reopened	When transferred in	No	Yes/No
ARKANSAS:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Chancery and Probate Court	G	Reopened		No	No
CALIFORNIA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	Retried cases	No	No
Municipal Court	L	Reopened	Retried cases	No	N/A
Justice Court	L	Reopened	Retried cases	No	N/A
COLORADO:					
District Court	G	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
Water Court	G	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
County Court	L	Reopened	Post Activities	No	No
Municipal Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
CONNECTICUT:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		No	No
DELAWARE:					
Court of Chancery	G	Reopened		No	No
Superior Court	G	New filing Reopened	If remanded Case rehearing	No	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Rarely occurs		No	Yes/No
Family Court	L	New filing is heard separately Reopened - if rehearing of total case	If part of original proceeding	No	No
Court of Common Pleas	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
Alderman's Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	Yes/Yes
FLORIDA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
County Court	L	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
GEORGIA:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		No	No
Civil Court	L	N/C		No	No
State Court	L	New filing		No	No
Probate Court	L	New filing		No	No
Magistrate Court	L	New filing		No	No
Municipal Court	L	N/C		No	No
HAWAII:					
Circuit Court and Family Court	G	Reopened	Supplemental proceedings	Yes/Yes Special proceedings	Yes/Yes Circuit Court: Special Proceedings
District Court	L	Reopened	Supplemental proceedings	No	Yes/No (included as new (case filing)
IDAHO:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	No
ILLINOIS:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
INDIANA:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
County Court	L	Reopened	Redocketed	No	No
Municipal Court of Marion County	L	Reopened	Redocketed	No No	No No
City Court	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Small Claims Court of Marion County	L	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
IOWA:					
District Court	G	New filing		Yes/No	No
KANSAS:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes/No

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
KENTUCKY:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
District Court	L	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
LOUISIANA:					
District Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	Yes/Yes	Yes/No
Juvenile Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	Yes/Yes	No
Family Court	G	Reopened	As action on open case	No	No
City & Parish Courts	L	New filing	As action on open case	Yes/No	No
MAINE:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		No	Yes/No
District Court	L	N/C		No	No
Probate Court	L	N/C		No	No
MARYLAND:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing		No	N/A
District Court	L	N/A		N/A	Yes/No
MASSACHUSETTS:					
Trial Court of the Commonwealth					
Superior Court Dept.	G	N/C		N/A	Yes/Yes
District Court Dept.	G	N/C		Yes/Yes	N/A
Boston Municipal Court Dept.	G	N/C		Yes/Yes	N/A
Housing Court Dept.	G	N/C		Yes/Yes	N/A
Land Court Dept.	G	N/C		N/Applicable	N/A
MICHIGAN:					
Court of Claims	G	Reopened		No	No
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
District Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
Municipal Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
MINNESOTA:					
District Court	G	Identified separately		No	No
MISSISSIPPI:		Data are unavailable			
MISSOURI:					
Circuit Court	G	New filings		Yes/No	Yes/No
MONTANA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	Yes/No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
Municipal Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
City Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
NEBRASKA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
County Court	L	Reopened		No	No
NEVADA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	No
NEW HAMPSHIRE:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	No
District Court	L	N/C		No	No
Municipal Court	L	N/C		No	No
NEW JERSEY:					
Superior Court: Civil, Family, General Equity, and Criminal Divisions	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	Yes/No (except for domestic violence)
NEW MEXICO:					
District Court	G	Reopened		Yes/Yes	No
Magistrate Court	L	Reopened		No	No
Metropolitan Court of Bernalillo County	L	Reopened		No	No
NEW YORK:					
Supreme Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
County Court	L	N/C		No	No
Court of Claims	L	N/C		No	No
Family Court	L	Reopened		Yes/No	No
District Court	L	N/C		No	No
City Court	L	N/C		No	No
Civil Court of the City of New York	L	N/C		No	No
Town & Village Justice Court	L	N/C		No	No
NORTH CAROLINA:					
Superior Court	G	N/C		No	No
District Court	L	N/C		Yes/No	No
NORTH DAKOTA:					
District Court	G	New filing		Yes/Yes (only counted if a hearing was held)	Yes/Yes
County Court	L	New filing		N/A	N/A

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
OHIO:					
Court of Common Pleas	G	Reopened		Yes/No (are counted separately in domestic relations cases)	Yes/No
Municipal Court	L	Reopened		No	No
County Court	L	Reopened		No	No
Court of Claims	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
OKLAHOMA:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
OREGON:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		Yes/No	Yes/No
Justice Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
Municipal Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
District Court	L	Reopened		N/A	N/A
PENNSYLVANIA:					
Court of Common Pleas	G	Reopened		No	No
District Justice Court	L	New filing		N/A	N/A
PUERTO RICO:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		Yes/No	N/A
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/No	N/A
RHODE ISLAND:					
Superior Court	G	Reopened		No	Yes/No
District Court	L	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
Family Court	L	Reopened		No	Yes/Yes
Probate Court	L	N/A		N/A	N/A
SOUTH CAROLINA:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing		No	No (Permanent injunctions are counted as a new filing)
Family Court	L	New filing		No	No
Magistrate Court	L	New filing		No	No
Probate Court	L	New filing		No	No
SOUTH DAKOTA:					
Circuit Court	G	N/C		No	Yes/No
TENNESSEE:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)
Chancery Court	G	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)
General Sessions Court	L	Reopened	(Varies based on local practice)		(Varies based on local practice)

(continued on next page)

FIGURE H: Method of counting civil cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Are reopened cases counted as new filings, or identified separately as reopened cases?	Qualifications or Conditions	Are enforcement/collection proceedings counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?	Are temporary injunctions counted? If yes, are they counted separately from new case filings?
TEXAS:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Constitutional County Court	L	Reopened		No	No
County Court at Law	L	Reopened		No	No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	New filing		No	No
UTAH:					
District Court	G	N/C	(called - abstract of judgment filed)	No	Yes/Yes
Circuit Court	L	N/C		No	Yes/Yes
Justice of the Peace Court	L	N/C		No	Yes/Yes
VERMONT:					
Superior Court	G	N/C		No	Yes/No
District Court	G	N/C		No	Yes/No
Probate Court	L	N/C		No	N/A
VIRGINIA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened	Reinstated cases	Yes/Yes	Yes/No
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/No	No
WASHINGTON:					
Superior Court	G	New filing		No	Yes/No
Municipal Court	L	New filing		N/A	N/A
District Court	L	New filing		Yes/Yes	N/A
WEST VIRGINIA:					
Circuit Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Magistrate Court	L	New filing		No	No
WISCONSIN:					
Circuit Court	G	New filing	Identified with R suffix, but included in total count	No	Yes/Yes
WYOMING:					
District Court	G	Reopened		No	No
Justice of the Peace Court	L	Reopened		N/A	N/A
County Court	L	Reopened		N/A	N/A

G - General Jurisdiction Court
L - Limited Jurisdiction Court
N/A - Information is not available
N/C - Information is not collected/counted
N/Applicable - Civil casetypes heard by this court are not applicable to this figure.

Source: State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide profiles, as updated and verified for 1987 by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

FIGURE I: Method of Counting Support/Custody Cases in State Trial Courts, 1987

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
ALABAMA:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA and nondissolution S/C which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
District Court	L	N/A	Yes (S/C only)	New filings
ALASKA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA and nondissolution S/C which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
ARIZONA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
ARKANSAS:				
Chancery and Probate Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases contested S/C and nondissolution S/C which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
CALIFORNIA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	N/C
COLORADO:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and contested S/C which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
CONNECTICUT:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except nondissolution S/C which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
DELAWARE:				
Family Court	L	Yes, except contested S/C and nondissolution S/C which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
FLORIDA:				
Circuit Court	G	No	Yes	Reopened cases
GEORGIA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA and contested S/C cases which are counted separately	Yes	New filings

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
HAWAII:				
Circuit Court (Family Court Division)	G	Yes, except URESA cases which are counted separately	Yes	N/C
IDAHO:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and S/C nondissolution, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
ILLINOIS:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
INDIANA:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases (redocketed)
Circuit Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases (redocketed)
IOWA:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
KANSAS:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	N/C
KENTUCKY:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
LOUISIANA:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
Juvenile Court	G	No (court has only support/custody jurisdiction)	Yes	Reopened cases
Family Court	G	Yes, except nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
MAINE:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are counted separately	Yes	N/C
District Court	L	Yes	Yes	N/C

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
MARYLAND: Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
MASSACHUSETTS: Trial Court of the Commonwealth: Probate and Family Court Department	G	Yes, except nondissolution S/C cases, which are counted separately	No	Reopened cases (Modifications)
MICHIGAN: Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	N/C
MINNESOTA: District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
MISSISSIPPI:		Data are unavailable		
MISSOURI: Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
MONTANA: District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and contested S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
NEBRASKA: District Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
NEVADA: District Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
NEW HAMPSHIRE: Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
NEW JERSEY: Superior Court: Civil, Family, General Equity and Criminal Divisions	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
NEW MEXICO:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
NEW YORK:				
Supreme Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
Family Court	L	No (support/custody jurisdiction only)	N/Applicable	Reopened cases (heard in Supreme Court only)
NORTH CAROLINA:				
District Court	L	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
NORTH DAKOTA:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
OHIO:				
Court of Common Pleas	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
OKLAHOMA:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
OREGON:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
PENNSYLVANIA:				
Court of Common Pleas	G	No	Yes	New filings
PUERTO RICO:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
RHODE ISLAND:				
Family Court	L	Yes, except URESA cases, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
SOUTH CAROLINA:				
Family Court	L	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings (not counted)
SOUTH DAKOTA:				
Circuit Court	G	No	Yes	N/C
TENNESSEE:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
Chancery Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
General Sessions Court	L	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
TEXAS:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
County-Level Courts	L	Yes, except URESA cases and nondissolution S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	New filings
UTAH:				
District Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and contested S/C, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
VERMONT:				
Superior Court	G	Yes	Yes	N/C
District Court	G	No	Yes	N/C
VIRGINIA:				
Circuit Court	G	Varies*	Yes	Reopened cases (cases commenced)
District Court	L	No	Yes	Reopened cases (reinstated cases)
WASHINGTON:				
Superior Court	G	Yes, except URESA and paternity cases, which are counted separately	Yes	Reopened cases
WEST VIRGINIA:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, unless S/C is an out-of-state issue	Yes	Reopened cases

(continued on next page)

FIGURE I: Method of counting support/custody cases in state trial courts, 1987. (continued)

State/Court name:	Jurisdiction	Is support/custody a proceeding within a marriage dissolution case?	Do the support/custody and marriage dissolution case counts include uncontested cases as well as contested cases?	Are changes in decree counted as new filings or as reopened cases?
WISCONSIN:				
Circuit Court	G	Yes, except URESA cases and S/C filed after the original proceeding	Yes	Reopened cases (new action to modify jurisdiction)
WYOMING:				
District Court	G	Yes	Yes	Reopened cases
County Court	L	No	Yes	Reopened cases

S/C	- Support/Custody
N/A	- Information is not available
N/C	- Information is not collected/counted
N/Applicable	- Civil casetypes heard by this court are not applicable to this figure.
URESA	- Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act

*FOOTNOTES:

Virginia--If a custody/support issue is considered at the same time as the divorce action, it is counted as one divorce case. Sometimes, custody/support issues arise after the final decree in a divorce case is entered. When this happens, the custody/support issue is counted as a reinstatement of an "other equity" case. A reinstatement is counted as a case commenced. Custody/support issues are sometimes referred to the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, where they are counted as new cases.

Source: State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide, as updated and verified for 1987 by State Administrative Offices of the Courts.

Appendices

Appendix A

Methodology

Methodology

Court Statistics Project: Goals and Organization

The Court Statistics Project compiles and reports comparable court caseload data from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico and encourages greater uniformity in how individual state courts and state administrative court offices collect and publish caseload information. Progress toward greater uniformity in caseload data reporting should result in more meaningful and useful caseload information at the disposal of judges, court managers, and state court administrators.

The *State Court Caseload Statistics* series is a cooperative effort of the Conference of State Court Administrators (COSCA) and the National Center for State Courts (NCSC). Responsibility for project management and staffing is assumed by the NCSC's Court Statistics Project, formerly called the National Court Statistics Project (1977-83) and the Court Statistics and Information Management Project (1983-87). COSCA, through its Court Statistics and Technology Committee (CSTC), provides policy guidance and review for the project. The Court Statistics and Technology Committee is composed of representatives from COSCA, COSCA's staff, the National Conference of Appellate Court Clerks, the National Association for Court Management, and a representative from the academic research community. The preparation of the 1987 caseload report was funded by a grant from the State Justice Institute (SJI 87 08F B 020) to NCSC.

In addition to preparing publications, the Court Statistics Project responds to about 500 requests for information and assistance each year. These requests fall into four basic categories: requests for caseload data, requests for court jurisdictional information, requests for information on data collection and reporting procedures, and requests for statistical analysis of the caseload data. The requests come from a variety of sources, including state administrative offices of the courts, local courts, individual justices and judges, federal agencies, legislators, the media, academic researchers, and NCSC staff. The requests received by the project are taken into consideration when topics are selected for emphasis in the annual caseload statistics report.

Evolution of the Court Statistics Project

During compilation of the *State of the Art* and the *State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report, 1975*, the Court Statistics Project's original data compilation efforts, classification problems arose from the multitude of categories and terms used by the states to report their caseloads.[1] This suggested the need for a model annual report and a statistical dictionary of terms for court usage.

The *State Court Model Annual Report* outlines the basic management data that should, at a minimum, be included in state court annual reports.[2] *The State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*, published in 1980, and the *1984 Supplement* provide common terminology, definitions, and usage for reporting appellate and trial court caseload inventory. The dictionary and other project publications provide terms for use in reporting data on the method of case disposition.[3] The classification structure and definitions serve as a model framework for developing comparable and useful data. A consolidated and revised edition of the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*, which incorporates many new appellate court reporting categories, will be published in 1989.

The *Court Case Management Information Systems Manual*, which was produced jointly with the State Judicial Information Systems Project, is another publication through which the Court Statistics Project seeks to enhance the usefulness of court statistics.[4] This manual provides a methodology for building court information systems that provide the data needed for both daily court operations and long-term case management, resource allocation, and strategic planning.

Once a set of recommended terms was established, the focus shifted to assessing the comparability of caseload data as reported by the courts to those terms. It became particularly important to detail the subject matter jurisdiction and methods of counting cases in each state court. This effort was undertaken in two stages. The first stage addressed problems related to the categorizing and counting of cases in the trial courts and resulted in the *1984 State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting*.[5] Information from the jurisdiction guide was incorporated into the caseload database for 1981 and is updated annually.

---

[1] National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Caseload Statistics: The State of the Art* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1978).

[2] National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Model Annual Report* (Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1980).

[3] National Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary* (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1980); *Supplement* (Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1984).

[4] Clifford and Jensen, *Court Case Management Information Systems Manual* (Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1983).

The second stage involved preparation of the *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting*, which was used to compile the 1984 appellate court database.[6] The introduction to the 1981 report contains a complete description of the impact of the *Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide* on the Court Statistics Project data collection, and the introduction of the 1984 report provided a complete description of the impact of the *Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide*.

Much of the court jurisdiction information contained in the 1987 report is the result of research done for *State Court Organization, 1987*, another project publication. *State Court Organization, 1987*, is a source book which describes the organization and management of state appellate and trial courts.[7]

The first caseload report presented 1975 caseload data for state appellate courts, trial courts of general jurisdiction, and for selected categories (juvenile, domestic relations, probate, and mental health) in limited jurisdiction courts. The second report (1976) again presented available data for appellate courts and courts of general jurisdiction and also included all available caseload data for limited jurisdiction courts. The 1979 and 1980 reports eliminated repetitiveness in the summary tables and reorganized the data in the summary tables based on completeness and comparability. The 1981 volume, incorporating the structure detailed in the *1984 Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide*, organized the caseload data by comparable jurisdictions. In order to make the series current with the publication of the 1984 volume, the Court Statistics Project did not publish caseload data for 1982 and 1983.

Sources of Data

Information for the national caseload databases comes from published and unpublished sources supplied by state court administrators and appellate court clerks. The published data are usually found in official state annual reports. State annual reports assume a variety of forms and vary widely in detail. They represent the most reliable and valid data available at the state level. The data, however, are the product of statistical reports, often filed monthly or quarterly, from numerous local jurisdictions and, in most states, several trial court systems. The caseload statistics are used by the states to manage their own systems and are not prepared specifically for inclusion in the NCSC caseload statistics series.

Some states either do not publish an annual report or publish only limited caseload statistics for either trial or appellate courts. The Court Statistics Project receives unpublished data from those states in a wide range of forms, including internal management memos, computer-generated output, and the project's statistical and jurisdictional profiles, which were sent to state court administrative offices for updating.

Telephone contact and follow-up correspondence are used to collect missing data, confirm the accuracy of available data, and determine the legal jurisdiction of each court. Information is collected concerning the number of judges per court or court system (from annual reports, offices of state court administrators, and appellate court clerks); the state population (based on Bureau of the Census revised estimates);[8] and special characteristics regarding subject matter jurisdiction and court structure. Appendix B lists the source of each state's caseload statistics for 1987.

Data Collection Procedures

The following outline summarizes the major tasks involved in collecting the 1987 caseload data reported in this volume.

a. The 1987 state reports were evaluated to note changes in the categories and terminology used to report the data, changes in the range of available data, and changes in the state's court organization or jurisdiction. This process involved a direct comparison of the 1987 material with the contents of individual state 1986 annual reports. Project staff used a copy of each state's 1986 trial and appellate court statistical profile(s), trial and appellate court jurisdiction guide profile(s), and the state court organization chart as worksheets for gathering the 1987 data. Use of the previous year's profiles provided the data collector with a reference point so that the logic behind the 1986 data collection could be identified and replicated. The caseload data were then taken from the state caseload report and entered onto the 1987 profiles. The caseload terminology used on the profiles are defined in the statistical dictionary. Prototypes of the appellate and trial court statistical profiles can be found in Appendix C.

b. Project staff screened the collected caseload numbers for significant changes from the previous year. A formal record documented, and, where possible, explained such changes. This process served as another reliability check by identifying statutory, organizational, or procedural changes that potentially have an impact on court caseload. During the data collection process, a check was conducted to ensure compatibility between the information supplied on the jurisdiction guide profiles and the casetypes identified on the statistical profiles.

c. The data were then transferred from the handwritten copy to computer databases (codebooks are available upon request). The data entry program used (SPSS's Data Entry) automatically checked for certain data entry errors.

---

[5] Clifford and Roper, *State Trial Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting* (Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1985).

[6] Roper, *1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting* (Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1985).

[7] Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, *State Court Organization, 1987* (Williamsburg, Va.: National Center for State Courts, 1988).

[8] U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P-25, No. 1024, *State Population and Household Estimates, with Age, Sex, and Components of Change: 1981-87*. (Washington, D.C., U.S. Government Printing Office, 1988).

The software allows the programmer to establish a range of acceptable values for each variable. If a value was entered which fell outside the parameters, SPSS would not incorporate the number within the database until several attempts were made to enter the value. After the data were entered, a batch error-detection program checked for other user-specified logic violations, usually through mathematical checks on the consistency of subtotals and totals. The reliability of data collection and data entry were verified through an independent review of all decisions made by the original data collector.

d. After the data were entered and checked for keypunching errors, computer printouts were run comparing 1986 and 1987 reported data. The printouts were checked for inconsistencies between the two years, and outliers were identified.

e. Finally, the caseload tables in the body of this report were generated from the database.

Variables

There are four basic types of data elements collected by the Court Statistics Project: (1) trial court caseload statistics, (2) trial court jurisdictional/organizational information, (3) appellate court caseload, and (4) appellate court jurisdictional/organizational information. An individual court profile is prepared for each of these data elements. These data collection instruments are approved by COSCA's Court Statistics and Technology Committee and consist of data elements defined in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*.

There are four main trial court casetypes: civil, criminal, juvenile, and traffic/other violation. Each major casetype can be reduced to several specific caseload categories. For example, the civil casetype consists of tort, contract, real property rights, small claims, mental health, estate, and domestic relations cases. In some circumstances, these casetypes can be further refined; for example, domestic relations cases can be divided into marriage dissolution, URESA, support/custody, and adoption cases.

Currently, only filing and disposition numbers are entered into the database for each of these casetypes. Data on pending cases were routinely collected by the project until serious comparability problems were identified when compiling the 1984 caseload report. Some courts provided data that included active cases only, while others included active and inactive cases. COSCA's Court Statistics and Technology Committee recommended that the collection of pending caseload be deferred until a study determined whether the data can be made comparable across states.

The trial court jurisdictional profile collects an assortment of information relevant to the organization and jurisdiction of each trial court system. The main purpose of the profile is to translate the terminology used by the states when reporting statistical information into generic terms recommended by the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. In addition, the profile collects information on the numbers of courts, the number of judges, methods of counting cases, the availability of jury trials, the dollar amount jurisdiction of the court, and the method of case disposition.

There are also statistical and jurisdiction guide profiles for each state appellate court. Two major casetypes are used in the statistical profile: mandatory cases (those cases which the court must hear on the merits—appeals of right) and discretionary petitions (those cases which the court has discretion on whether to accept and then reach a decision on the merits). The statistical profile also contains the number of petitions granted, although many states do not report this. Mandatory and discretionary cases are further differentiated by whether the case is a review of a final trial court judgment or some other matter, such as interlocutory or postconviction relief. Where possible, the statistics are classified according to subject matter, mainly civil, criminal, juvenile, disciplinary, and administrative agency appeal.

As with the trial court jurisdiction guide, the primary task of the appellate court guide is to translate the terminology and categories used by each state appellate court into the generic ones recommended by the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. This guide also contains information about each court, including the number of court locations, the number of justices/judges, the number of legal support personnel, the point at which appeals are counted as a case, the procedures used to review discretionary petitions, and the use of panels.

Graphics as a Method of Displaying Caseload

The 1985 and 1986 caseload reports used maps to summarize the data presented in table form. The 1987 report also uses maps to display information; however, their use is limited to summarizing court structure and jurisdictional information rather than caseload data.

The 1987 report uses pie charts and bar graphs to illustrate and summarize the caseload data presented in table form. The states are arranged by filing rate, from lowest to highest, so that a midpoint can be easily determined. Each graph is limited to those states providing relevant data in a comparable manner to the project. It is incorrect to conclude that a state omitted from the graph did not report caseload statistics to the project. The definitive statement of data availability can be found in the detailed caseload tables in Part II.

Footnotes

Footnotes indicate the degree to which a court's statistics conform to the Court Statistics Project's reporting categories as defined in the *State Court Model Statistical Dictionary*. Footnoted caseload numbers are either overinclusive in that they contain casetypes other than those defined for the term in the dictionary, or are underinclusive in that some casetypes defined for the term in the dictionary are not included. It is possible for a caseload number to contain inapplicable types, while omitting applicable ones, making the subtotal or total simultaneously overinclusive and underinclusive.

Reported case filings and dispositions are also affected by the unit and method of count used by states, differing subject matter and dollar amount jurisdictions, and different court system structures. Most of these differences are described in the figures found in Part IV of this volume and summarized in the court structure chart for each state in Part III.

Variations in Reporting Periods

As indicated in Figure A, most states report data by fiscal year, others by calendar year, and a few appellate courts report data by court term. Therefore, the 12-month period covered in this report is not the same for all courts.

The 1987 report reflects court organization and jurisdiction in 1987. Since 1975, new courts have been created at both the appellate and trial level, new courts report data to the Court Statistics Project, courts may have merged and changed counting or reporting methods. The dollar amount limits of civil jurisdiction in many trial courts also vary. Great care is therefore required when comparing the 1987 data to previous years.

Final Note

Finally, comments, corrections, and suggestions by readers are a vital part of the work of the Court Statistics Project and should be sent to the Director, Court Statistics Project, National Center for State Courts, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, Virginia, 23187-8798.

Appendix B

Sources of 1987 State Court Caseload Statistics

Sources of 1987 state court caseload statistics

ALABAMA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of Courts.

ALASKA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *Alaska Court System, 1987 Annual Report* (Anchorage, Alaska: 1988).

ARIZONA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Arizona Courts, 1987 Judicial Report* (Phoenix, Arizona: 1988).

ARKANSAS:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Secretary of the Judicial Department, *Annual Report of the Judiciary of Arkansas, FY 86-87* (Little Rock, Arkansas: 1988).

CALIFORNIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Judicial Council of California, *1988 Annual Report, Judicial Council of California* (San Francisco, California: 1988).

COLORADO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the Colorado Judiciary 1986-87* (Denver, Colorado: 1987).

CONNECTICUT:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: *Biennial Report of the Connecticut Judicial Department, 1985-87* (Hartford, Connecticut: 1988).

DELAWARE:

COLR, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *1987 Annual Report of the Delaware Judiciary* (Wilmington, Delaware: 1987). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

COLR, GJC: Executive Officer of the Courts, *1987 Annual Report, District of Columbia Courts* (Washington, D.C.: 1987). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Executive Officer.

COLR = Court of last resort.
GJC = General jurisdiction court.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.
LJC = Limited jurisdiction court.

FLORIDA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the State Courts Administrator and Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

GEORGIA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

HAWAII:

COLR, IAC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Judiciary, State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1986-87* and *Statistical Supplement, July 1, 1986 to June 30, 1987* (Honolulu, Hawaii: 1987).

GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Judiciary, State of Hawaii: Annual Report 1986-87* (Honolulu, Hawaii: 1987). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

IDAHO:

COLR, IAC, GJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *The Idaho Courts 1987 Annual Report Appendix* (Boise, Idaho: 1988).

ILLINOIS:

COLR, IAC, GJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

INDIANA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Director of the Division of State Court Administration, *1987 Indiana Judicial Report* (Indianapolis, Indiana: 1988).

IOWA:

COLR: State Court Administrator, *1987 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1988). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: State Court Administrator, *1987 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1988). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

GJC: State Court Administrator, *1987 Annual Statistical Report* (Des Moines, Iowa: 1988).

KANSAS:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Judicial Administrator, *Annual Report of the Courts of Kansas: 1986-1987 Fiscal Year* (Topeka, Kansas: 1987).

KENTUCKY:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Appeals.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

LOUISIANA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Judicial Administrator, *1987 Annual Report of the Judicial Council of the Supreme Court of Louisiana* (New Orleans, Louisiana: 1988).

MAINE:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *State of Maine Judicial Department 1987 Annual Report* (Portland, Maine: 1988).

MARYLAND:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the Maryland Judiciary 1986-87* (Annapolis, Maryland: 1987).

MASSACHUSETTS:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Appeals Court.

GJC: Chief Administrative Justice, *Annual Report of the Massachusetts Trial Court, 1987* (Boston, Massachusetts: 1988).

MICHIGAN:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *1987 Annual Report of the State Court Administrator and Statistical Supplement* (Lansing, Michigan: 1988).

MINNESOTA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Minnesota State Court Report 1986-1987* (St. Paul, Minnesota: 1988).

MISSISSIPPI:

COLR: Staff Attorney, *Mississippi Supreme Court Annual Report 1987* (Jackson, Mississippi: 1988).

GJC, LJC: No data were available for cases handled by these courts in 1987.

MISSOURI:

COLR, IAC, GJC: State Courts Administrator, *Missouri Judicial Report Fiscal Year 1987* (Jefferson City, Missouri: 1987).

MONTANA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Administrator of the Supreme Court.

GJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

LJC: No data were available for cases handled by these courts in fiscal year 1987.

NEBRASKA:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Nebraska Supreme Court 1987 Annual Report* (Lincoln, Nebraska: 1987).

NEVADA:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: No data were available for cases handled by these courts in 1987.

NEW HAMPSHIRE:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Director, Administrative Office of the Courts.

NEW JERSEY:

COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court.

GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director, Administrative Office of the Courts.

NEW MEXICO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director, *Judicial Department, State of New Mexico, Annual Report July 1, 1986-June 30, 1987* (Santa Fe, New Mexico: 1987).

NEW YORK:

COLR, IAC: Clerk of the Court, *1987 Annual Report of the Clerk of the Court, Court of Appeals of the State of New York* (New York: 1988). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerks of the Appellate Division and Appellate Terms of the Supreme Court.

GJC, LJC: Chief Administrator of the Courts, *Ninth Annual Report 1988* (New York: 1988).

NORTH CAROLINA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director, Administrative Office of the Courts, *North Carolina Courts, 1986-87* (Raleigh, North Carolina: 1987).

NORTH DAKOTA:

COLR, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the North Dakota Judicial System, 1987* (Bismarck, North Dakota: 1988).

OHIO:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Supreme Court, *Ohio Courts Summary 1987* (Columbus, Ohio: 1988).

OKLAHOMA:

COLR: Administrative Director of the Courts, *State of Oklahoma, the Judiciary: Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1987* (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: 1988). Additional unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Court of Criminal Appeals.

IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *State of Oklahoma, the Judiciary: Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1987* and *Statistical Appendix* (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: 1988).

OREGON:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

PENNSYLVANIA:

COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Administrator.

PUERTO RICO:
GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

RHODE ISLAND:
COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.
GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

SOUTH CAROLINA:
COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Director of the Judicial Department, *South Carolina Judicial Department, Annual Report, 1987* (Columbia, South Carolina: 1988).
Unpublished data were provided by the State Court Administrator.

SOUTH DAKOTA:
COLR, GJC: State Court Administrator, *Benchmark 1987: Annual Report of the South Dakota Unified Judicial System* (Pierre, South Dakota: 1988).

TENNESSEE:
COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Secretary, Supreme Court of Tennessee, *1987 Annual Report* (Nashville, Tennessee: 1988).

TEXAS:
COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Administrative Director of the Courts, *Texas Judicial System Annual Report, September 1, 1986 - August 31, 1987* (Austin, Texas: 1987).

UTAH:
COLR, GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.

VERMONT:
COLR, GJC, LJC: Court Administrator, *Judicial Statistics for Year Ending June 30, 1987* (Montpelier, Vermont: 1987).

VIRGINIA:
COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: Executive Secretary, Supreme Court, *Virginia State of the Judiciary Report 1987* (Richmond, Virginia: 1988).

WASHINGTON:
COLR, IAC, GJC, LJC: State Court Administrator, *Annual Report of the Courts of Washington, 1987* (Olympia, Washington: 1988).
Caseloads of the Courts of Limited Jursidiction of Washington State, 1987 (Olympia, Washington: 1987.)

WEST VIRGINIA:
COLR: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court of Appeals.
GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Administrative Director of the Courts.

WISCONSIN:
COLR, IAC: Unpublished data were provided by the Clerk of the Supreme Court.
GJC, LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Director of State Courts.

WYOMING:
COLR, GJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Court Coordinator.
LJC: Unpublished data were provided by the Director of State Courts.

COLR = Court of last resort.
GJC = General jurisdiction court.
IAC = Intermediate appellate court.
LJC = Limited jurisdiction court.

Appendix C

Prototype Statistical Profiles

Prototype of State Appellate Court Statistical Profile Used in 1987 Data Collection

STATE NAME, COURT NAME
Court of last resort or intermediate appellate court
Number of divisions/departments, Number of authorized justices/judges
Time period covered

	Beginning pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending
Cases:				
Mandatory jurisdiction:				
Appeals of final judgment:				
Civil				
Criminal:				
Capital crimes (death/life)				
Other criminal				
Total criminal				
Juvenile				
Administrative agency				
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)				
Total appeals of final judgment				
Other mandatory cases:				
Disciplinary matters:				
Attorney				
Judge				
Total disciplinary				
Original proceedings (e.g., extraordinary writs, postconviction remedy, sentence review only, election cases)				
Interlocutory decisions				
Advisory opinions:				
Intra-state (legislature, executive, courts).				
Federal courts (i.e., certified question)				
Total advisory opinions				
Total other mandatory cases				
Total mandatory jurisdiction cases				
Discretionary jurisdiction:				
Petitions of final judgment:				
Civil		( )	( )	
Criminal		( )	( )	
Juvenile		( )	( )	
Administrative agency		( )	( )	
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)		( )	( )	
Total petitions of final judgment		( )	( )	
Other discretionary petitions:				
Disciplinary matters:				
Attorney		( )	( )	
Judge		( )	( )	
Total disciplinary		( )	( )	
Original proceedings (e.g., extraordinary writs, postconviction remedy, sentence review only, election cases)		( )	( )	
Interlocutory decisions		( )	( )	
Advisory opinions:				
Intra-state (legislature, executive, courts)		( )	( )	
Federal courts (e.g., certified question)		( )	( )	
Total advisory opinions		( )	( )	
Total other discretionary petitions		( )	( )	
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases		( )	( )	
Grand total cases		( )	( )	
Other proceedings:				
Rehearing/reconsideration requests				
Motions				
Other matters (e.g., bar admissions)				

Prototype of state appellate court statistical profile

	Manner of Disposition					
	Predecision disposition (dismissed/ withdrawn/ settled)	Opinions		Decision without opinion (memo/ order)	Transferred	Other
		Signed opinion	Per curiam opinion			
Mandatory jurisdiction:						
Appeals of final judgment:						
Civil						
Criminal						
Juvenile						
Administrative agency						
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)						
Other mandatory cases:						
Disciplinary matters						
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)						
Interlocutory decisions						
Total mandatory jurisdiction cases						
Discretionary jurisdiction (cases granted only):						
Petitions of final judgments:						
Civil						
Criminal						
Juvenile						
Administrative agency						
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)						
Other discretionary petitions						
Disciplinary matters						
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)						
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases						
Grand total						

	Type of decision in mandatory cases/granted petitions of final judgment					
	Civil	Criminal	Juvenile	Administrative Agency	Other Mandatory cases	Total
Opinions:						
Affirmed						
Modified						
Reversed						
Remanded						
Mixed						
Dismissed						
Other						
Decisions without opinion:						
Affirmed						
Modified						
Reversed						
Remanded						
Mixed						
Dismissed						
Other						

	Type of decision in other discretionary petitions		
	Petition granted	Petition denied	Other
Other discretionary petitions			
Disciplinary matters			
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)			
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases			

Prototype of state appellate court statistical profil

	Time interval data[n] (months/days)											
	Notice of appeal to ready for hearing			Ready for hearing to under advisement (submitted or oral argument completed)			Under advisement (submitted or oral argument completed) to decision			Notice of appeal to decision		
	Number of cases	Mean	Median	Number of cases	Mean	Median	Number of cases	Mean	Median	Number of cases	Mean	Median
Mandatory jurisdiction:												
Appeals of final judgment:												
Civil												
Criminal												
Juvenile												
Administrative agency												
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)												
Other mandatory cases:												
Disciplinary matters												
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases												
Interlocutory decisions												
Total mandatory jurisdiction cases												
Discretionary jurisdiction:												
Petitions of final judgment:												
Civil												
Criminal												
Juvenile												
Administrative agency												
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)												
Other discretionary petitions												
Disciplinary matters												
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)												
Interlocutory decisions												
Advisory opinions												
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases												
Grand total												

Prototype of state appellate court statistical profile

	Age of pending caseload (days)															
	Not ready for hearing															
	Awaiting court reporter's transcript			Awaiting appellant's brief			Awaiting respondent's brief			Ready for hearing			Under advisement (submitted or oral argument completed)			
	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	0-60 days	61-120 days	Over 120 days	Average age of pending caseload
Mandatory jurisdiction:																
Appeals of final judgment:																
Civil																
Criminal																
Juvenile																
Administrative agency																
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)																
Other mandatory cases:																
Disciplinary matters																
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)																
Interlocutory decisions																
Total mandatory jurisdiction cases																
Discretionary jurisdiction:																
Petitions of final judgment:																
Civil																
Criminal																
Juvenile																
Administrative agency																
Unclassified (e.g., constitutional issue)																
Other discretionary petitions																
Disciplinary matters																
Original proceedings (e.g., election cases)																
Interlocutory decisions																
Advisory opinions																
Total discretionary jurisdiction cases																
Grand total																

Prototype of state appellate court statistical profile

Boldface headings indicate the classifications used by the Court Statistics Project.
N/A = The casetype is handled by the court, but the data are unavailable.
X = The data for this casetype are known to be included in the total but are unavailable by category.
-- = Data element is not applicable.

( ) NOTE: Begin pending data filed outside the parentheses, disposed data outside the parentheses, and end pending data reported as discretionary jurisdiction cases represent petitions/motions for review. Filed figures inside the parentheses represent those newly filed petitions/motions that were granted during the time period covered on this profile. For those interested, filed figures inside the parentheses can then be added to total mandatory jurisdiction cases filed to arrive at the number of new cases that the court will ultimately consider "on the merits." Disposed figures inside the parentheses represent the number of discretionary petitions granted that were disposed of "on the merits." This number is rarely available, and is usually included in either the total discretionary petitions disposed, or the mandatory jurisdiction cases. The number of disposed petitions inside the parentheses can be added to total mandatory jurisdiction cases disposed to arrive at the number of cases that the court disposed of "on the merits."

Qualifying Footnotes:

A = The data element is complete with no footnotes.

B = The data element is complete and represents some double counting.

C = The data element is overinclusive.

D = The data element is overinclusive and represents some double counting.

I (enter as lower case) = The data element is at least 75% complete.

J = The data element is at least 75% complete, and represents some double counting.

P = The data element is incomplete and overinclusive.

Q = The data element is incomplete, overinclusive and represents some double counting.

V = The data element is less than 75% complete.

W = The data element is less than 75% complete, and represents some double counting.

X = The data element is less than 75% complete, and overinclusive.

Y = The data element is less than 75% complete, overinclusive, and represents some double counting.

Z = The data are missing for this data element.

R = Judge information.

S = Figure was computed.

T = Additional information.

U = The data element is included in the unclassified category.

Prototype of State Trial Court Statistical Profile Used in 1987 Data Collection

STATE NAME, COURT NAME
Court of general jurisdiction or court of limited jurisdiction
Number of circuits or districts, Number of judges
Time period covered

	Beginning pending	Filed	Disposed	End pending
Civil:				
Tort:				
Auto tort				
Medical malpractice				
Other professional malpractice				
Product liability tort				
Miscellaneous tort				
Total tort				
Contract				
Real property rights				
Small claims				
Domestic relations:				
Marriage dissolution				
Support/custody				
URESA				
Adoption				
Paternity/bastardy				
Miscellaneous domestic relations				
Total domestic relations				
Estate:				
Probate/wills/intestate				
Guardianship/conservatorship/trusteeship				
Miscellaneous estate				
Total estate				
Mental health				
Appeal:				
Appeal of administrative agency case				
Appeal of trial court case				
Total civil appeals				
Miscellaneous civil				
Total civil				
Criminal:				
Felony				
Misdemeanor				
DWI/DUI				
Appeal				
Miscellaneous criminal				
Total criminal				
Traffic/other violation:				
Moving traffic violation				
Ordinance violation				
Parking violation				
Miscellaneous traffic				
Total traffic/other violation				
Juvenile:				
Criminal-type juvenile petition				
Status offense				
Child-victim petition				
Miscellaneous juvenile petition				
Total juvenile				
Grand total cases				
Other proceedings:				
Postconviction remedy				
Preliminary hearings				
Sentence review only				
Extraordinary writs				
Total other proceedings				

Prototype of state trial court statistical profile

Manner of disposition: trials

		Trial	
	Jury	Non-Jury	Total
Civil:			
Tort:			
Auto tort			
Other professional malpractice			
Product liability tort			
Miscellaneous tort			
Total tort			
Contract			
Real property rights			
Small claims			
Domestic relations:			
Marriage dissolution			
Support/custody			
URESA			
Adoption			
Paternity/bastardy			
Miscellaneous domestic relations			
Total domestic relations			
Estate:			
Probate/wills/intestate			
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship			
Miscellaneous estate			
Total estate			
Mental health			
Appeal:			
Appeal of administrative agency case			
Appeal of trial court case			
Total civil appeals			
Miscellaneous civil			
Total civil			

		Trial	
	Jury	Non-Jury	Total
Criminal:			
Felony:			
Misdemeanor			
DWI/DUI			
Appeal			
Miscellaneous criminal			
Total criminal			
Traffic/other violation:			
Moving traffic			
Ordinance violation			
Parking violation			
Miscellaneous traffic			
Total traffic/other violation			
Juvenile:			
Criminal-type juvenile petition			
Status petition			
Child-victim petition			
Miscellaneous juvenile petition			
Total juvenile			
Grand total trials			

Manner of civil dispositions

	Uncontested/ Default	Dismissed	Withdrawn	Settled	Transferred	Arbitration	Total
Civil:							
Tort:							
Auto tort							
Medical malpractice							
Other professional malpractice							
Product liability tort							
Miscellaneous tort							
Total tort							
Contract							
Real property rights							
Small claims							
Domestic relations:							
Marriage dissolution							
Support/custody							
URESA							
Adoption							
Paternity/bastardy							
Miscellaneous domestic relations							
Total domestic relations							
Estate:							
Probate/wills/intestate							
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship							
Miscellaneous estate							
Total estate							
Mental health							
Appeal:							
Appeal of administrative agency case							
Appeal of trial court case							
Total civil appeal							
Miscellaneous civil							
Total civil							

Prototype of state trial court statistical profile

Manner of criminal dispositions and type of decision

	Felony	Misdemeanor	DWI/DUI	Appeal	Miscellaneous criminal	Total
Jury trial:						
Conviction						
Guilty plea						
Acquittal						
Dismissed						
Non-jury trial:						
Conviction						
Guilty plea						
Acquittal						
Dismissed						
Dismissed/nolle prosequi						
Bail forfeiture						
Bound over						
Transferred						
Other						
Total dispositions						

Manner of traffic/other violation dispositions and type of decision

	Moving traffic violation	Ordinance violation	Parking	Miscellaneous traffic/ other violation	Total
Jury trial:					
Conviction					
Acquittal					
Non-jury trial:					
Conviction					
Acquittal					
Guilty plea					
Dismissed/nolle prosequi					
Bail forfeiture					
Parking fines					
Transferred					
Other					
Total					

Age of pending caseload (days)

	0-30 days	31-60 days	61-90 days	91-180 days	181-360 days	361-720 days	Over 720 days	Average age of pending cases
Civil:								
Tort:								
Auto tort								
Medical malpractice								
Other professional malpractice								
Product liability tort								
Miscellaneous tort								
Total tort								
Contract								
Real property rights								
Small claims								
Domestic relations:								
Marriage dissolution								
Support/custody								
URESA								
Adoption								
Paternity/bastardy								
Miscellaneous domestic relations								
Total domestic relations								
Estate:								
Probate/wills/intestate								
Guardianship/conservatorship/ trusteeship								
Miscellaneous estate								
Total estate								
Mental health								
Appeal:								
Appeal of administrative agency case								
Appeal of trial court case								
Total appeal								
Miscellaneous civil								
Total civil								

Prototype of state trial court statistical profile

	Age of pending caseload (days)							
	0-30 days	31-60 days	61-90 days	91-180 days	181-360 days	361-720 days	Over 720 days	Average age of pending cases
Criminal:								
Felony								
Misdemeanor								
DWI/DUI								
Appeal								
Miscellaneous criminal								
Total criminal								
Traffic/other violation:								
Moving traffic								
Ordinance violation								
Parking violation								
Miscellaneous traffic								
Total traffic/other violation								
Juvenile:								
Criminal-type juvenile petition								
Status petition								
Child-victim petition								
Miscellaneous juvenile petition								
Total juvenile								

Boldface headings indicate the classifications used by the Court Statistics Project (CSP).
N/A = This casetype is handled by the court, but the data are unavailable.
X = The data for this casetype are known to be included in the total but are unavailable by category.
-- = Not applicable.

Units of count:
- Civil unit of count.
- Criminal unit of count.
- Traffic/other violation unit of count.
- Juvenile unit of count.

Trial definitions:
- Jury trial definition.
- Nonjury trial definition.

Qualifying Footnotes:

A = The data element is complete with no footnotes.

C = The data element is complete and also includes more information than can be specifically identified in codes E-H below.

E = The data element is complete and also includes all postconviction remedy proceedings.

F = The data element is complete and also includes all ordinance violation cases.

G = The data element is complete and also includes all DWI/DUI cases.

H = The data element is complete and also includes all criminal appeals cases.

i (enter as lower case) = The data element is at least 75% complete, and is missing more information than can be specifically identified in codes K-N below.

K = The data element does not include any limited felony cases.

L = The data element does not include any DWI/DUI cases.

M = The data element does not include any criminal appeal cases.

N = The data element does not include any ordinance violation cases.

O = The data element is incomplete and overinclusive.

V = The data element is less than 75% complete.

X = The data element is less than 75% complete and overinclusive.

Q = Additional court information.

R = Judge information.

S = Figure was computed.

T = Additional information; reopened cases are added to the data element.

U = The data element is included in the unclassified category.

Z = The data are missing for this data element (i.e., the primary data element was coded a "-5" to a "-1").

-1Z = Data not available

-2Z = Casetype does not fall within the jurisdiction of the court.

-3Z = Data are represented in the total, but could not be separated by data element.

-4Z = Data are reported in the unclassified category of the same general casetype.

-5Z = Data are collapsed with another casetype and could not be identified by specific data element.

Appendix D

State Populations

Resident Population, 1987

	Population (in thousands)		
State or territory	1987 Juvenile	1987 Adult	1987 Total
Alabama	1,117	2,966	4,083
Alaska	172	353	525
Arizona	919	2,467	3,386
Arkansas	648	1,740	2,388
California	7,302	20,361	27,663
Colorado	873	2,423	3,296
Connecticut	757	2,454	3,211
Delaware	162	482	644
District of Columbia	136	486	622
Florida	2,704	9,319	12,023
Georgia	1,736	4,486	6,222
Hawaii	286	797	1,083
Idaho	306	692	998
Illinois	3,035	8,547	11,582
Indiana	1,470	4,061	5,531
Iowa	732	2,102	2,834
Kansas	650	1,826	2,476
Kentucky	996	2,731	3,727
Louisiana	1,315	3,146	4,461
Maine	303	884	1,187
Maryland	1,125	3,410	4,535
Massachusetts	1,336	4,519	5,855
Michigan	2,460	6,740	9,200
Minnesota	1,111	3,135	4,246
Mississippi	791	1,834	2,625
Missouri	1,309	3,794	5,103
Montana	224	585	809
Nebraska	424	1,170	1,594
Nevada	253	754	1,007
New Hampshire	266	791	1,057
New Jersey	1,831	5,841	7,672
New Mexico	446	1,054	1,500
New York	4,361	13,464	17,825
North Carolina	1,627	4,786	6,413
North Dakota	187	485	672
Ohio	2,836	7,948	10,784
Oklahoma	893	2,379	3,272
Oregon	686	2,038	2,724
Pennsylvania	2,851	9,085	11,936
Puerto Rico	N/A	N/A	3,292
Rhode Island	229	757	986
South Carolina	941	2,484	3,425
South Dakota	196	513	709
Tennessee	1,251	3,604	4,855
Texas	4,984	11,805	16,789
Utah	629	1,051	1,680
Vermont	141	407	548
Virginia	1,459	4,445	5,904
Washington	1,169	3,369	4,538
West Virginia	490	1,407	1,897
Wisconsin	1,269	3,538	4,807
Wyoming	148	342	490

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, series P-25, No. 1024, May 1988.

Total State Population for Trend Tables, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987

Total state population for trend tables, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987

State or territory	Population (in thousands) 1981	1984	1985	1986	1987
Alabama	3,917	3,990	4,021	4,053	4,083
Alaska	412	500	521	534	525
Arizona	2,794	3,053	3,187	3,280	3,386
Arkansas	2,296	2,349	2,359	2,372	2,388
California	24,196	25,622	26,365	26,981	27,663
Colorado	2,965	3,178	3,231	3,267	3,296
Connecticut	3,134	3,154	3,174	3,189	3,211
Delaware	598	613	622	633	644
District of Columbia	631	623	626	626	622
Florida	10,183	10,976	11,366	11,675	12,023
Georgia	5,574	5,837	5,976	6,104	6,222
Hawaii	981	1,039	1,054	1,062	1,083
Idaho	959	1,001	1,005	1,003	998
Illinois	11,462	11,511	11,535	11,553	11,582
Indiana	5,468	5,498	5,499	5,503	5,531
Iowa	2,899	2,910	2,884	2,850	2,834
Kansas	2,383	2,438	2,450	2,460	2,476
Kentucky	3,662	2,723	3,726	3,729	3,727
Louisiana	4,308	4,462	4,481	4,502	4,461
Maine	1,133	1,156	1,164	1,173	1,187
Maryland	4,263	4,349	4,392	4,463	4,535
Massachusetts	5,773	5,798	5,822	5,832	5,855
Michigan	9,204	9,075	9,088	9,145	9,200
Minnesota	4,094	4,162	4,193	4,214	4,246
Mississippi	2,531	2,598	2,613	2,625	2,625
Missouri	4,941	5,008	5,029	5,066	5,103
Montana	793	824	826	819	809
Nebraska	1,577	1,606	1,606	1,598	1,594
Nevada	845	911	936	964	1,007
New Hampshire	936	977	998	1,027	1,057
New Jersey	7,404	7,515	7,562	7,620	7,672
New Mexico	1,328	1,424	1,450	1,479	1,500
New York	17,602	17,735	17,783	17,772	17,825
North Carolina	5,953	6,165	6,255	6,334	6,413
North Dakota	658	686	685	679	672
Ohio	10,781	10,752	10,744	10,753	10,784
Oklahoma	3,100	3,298	3,301	3,305	3,272
Oregon	2,651	2,674	2,687	2,698	2,724
Pennsylvania	11,871	11,901	11,853	11,889	11,936
Puerto Rico	3,197	3,267	3,267	3,274	3,292
Rhode Island	953	962	968	975	986
South Carolina	3,167	3,300	3,347	3,376	3,425
South Dakota	686	706	708	708	709
Tennessee	4,612	4,717	4,762	4,803	4,855
Texas	14,766	15,989	16,370	16,685	16,789
Utah	1,518	1,652	1,645	1,665	1,680
Vermont	516	530	535	541	548
Virginia	5,430	5,636	5,706	5,787	5,904
Washington	4,217	4,349	4,409	4,463	4,538
West Virginia	1,952	1,952	1,936	1,919	1,897
Wisconsin	4,742	4,766	4,775	4,785	4,807
Wyoming	492	511	509	507	490

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, series P-25.

Other Publications from the Court Statistics Project

The following publications are available from the National Center for State Courts, 300 Newport Avenue, Williamsburg, VA 23187–8798:

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Reports 1976-1979
Each of these four volumes (1976-1979) has available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts. 1980-1984, paperback, $3.25 each volume, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1980
Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1984, 496 pages, paperback, $4.50, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1981
The 1981 Report is out of print. Photocopies are available from the Court Statistics Project.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1984
Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1986, 276 pages, 25 oz., paperback, $6.25, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1985
Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1987, 312 pages, 28 oz., paperback, $6.25, plus shipping.

State Court Caseload Statistics: Annual Report 1986
Available caseload information from all appellate and trial courts are presented in this report. 1988, 278 pages, 24 oz., paperback, $6.95, plus shipping.

Court Case Management Information Systems Manual
This manual reviews local and statewide case management information requirements and presents sets of model data elements, data collection forms and case management output reports for each level of court. 1983, 342 pages, 29 oz., paperback, $15.00, plus shipping.

The Business of State Trial Courts
Defining courts business as cases filed, serious cases, and contested cases, this monograph tests six myths about courts, their work and decisions. 1983, 158 pages, 14 oz., paperback, $10.00, plus shipping.

State Court Organization 1987
Updates the 1980 reference guide to the organization and practices of all state appellate and trial courts. 1988, 420 pages, 43 oz., paperback, $9.95, plus shipping.

State Court Model Annual Report
Suggested formats to be used in preparing state court annual reports. Discusses topics to be considered for inclusion in court reports. 1980, 88 pages. Single copies available free of charge.

1984 State Appellate Court Jurisdiction Guide for Statistical Reporting
Contains information on the organizations, jurisdiction, and time standards in the state appellate courts. 1985, 117 pages. Single copies available free of charge.

The following publication will soon be available from the National Center for State Courts:

State Court Model Statistical Dictionary
Contains definitions of terms used to classify and count court caseload. Gives the court statistical usage for each term. Merges the 1980 edition and 1984 *Supplement*, defines new terms. Forthcoming, 1989.